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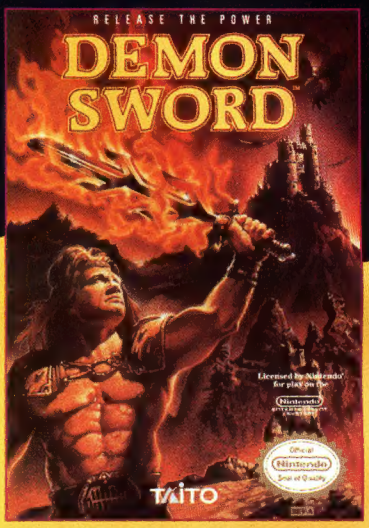
# Master The Power

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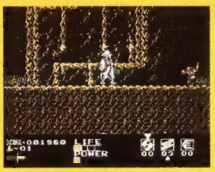
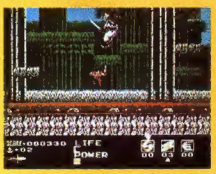
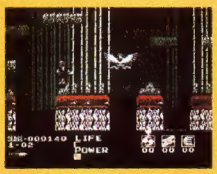



**Beware the wrath of the Old Wizard of Cedar Mountain.**




**Brave the broken bridges and terrifying chasms of Bamboo Forest.**

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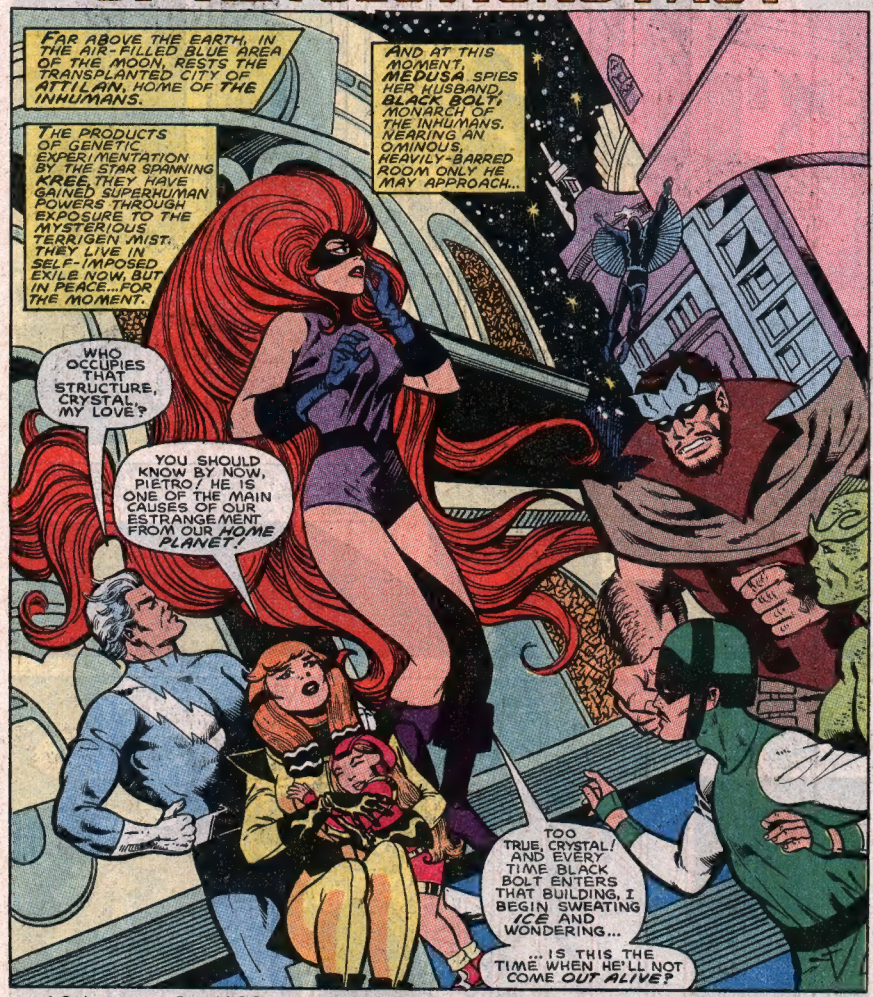
STan Lee PRESENTS: THE UNCANNY INHUMANS™

# REMEMBRANCES OF REVOLUTIONS PAST


FAR ABOVE THE EARTH, IN THE AIR-FILLED BLUE AREA OF THE MOON, RESTS THE TRANSPLANTED CITY OF ATTILAN, HOME OF THE INHUMANS.
THE PRODUCTS OF GENETIC EXPERIMENTATION BY THE STAR SPANNING KREE, THEY HAVE GAINED SUPERHUMAN POWERS THROUGH EXPOSURE TO THE MYSTERIOUS TERRIGEN MIST. THEY LIVE IN SELF-IMPOSED EXILE NOW, BUT IN PEACE...FOR THE MOMENT.
AND AT THIS MOMENT, MEDUSA SPIES HER HUSBAND, BLACK BOLT, MONARCH OF THE INHUMANS. NEARING AN OMINOUS, HEAVILY-BARRED ROOM ONLY HE MAY APPROACH...
WHO OCCUPIES THAT STRUCTURE, CRYSTAL, MY LOVE?
YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW, PIETRO! HE IS ONE OF THE MAIN CAUSES OF OUR ESTRANGEMENT FROM OUR HOME PLANET!
TOO TRUE, CRYSTAL! AND EVERY TIME BLACK BOLT ENTERS THAT BUILDING, I BEGIN SWEATING ICE AND WONDERING...
...IS THIS THE TIME WHEN HE'LL NOT COME OUT ALIVE?

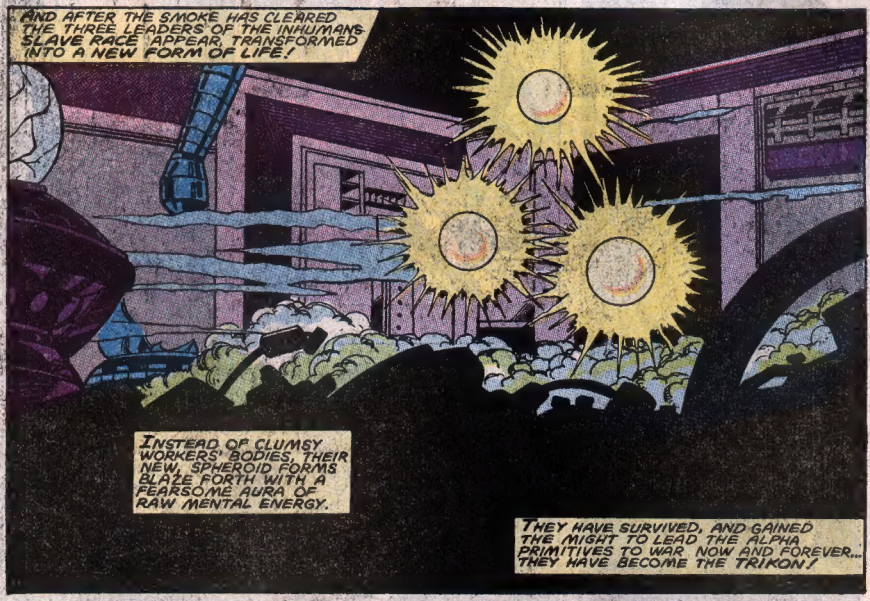
| LOU MOUGIN | RICHARD HOWELL | VINCE COLLETTA | DIANA ALBERS | MARK GRUENWALD | TOM DeFALCO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WRITER | PENCILER/COLORIST | INKER | LETTERER | EDITOR | EDITOR IN CHIEF |

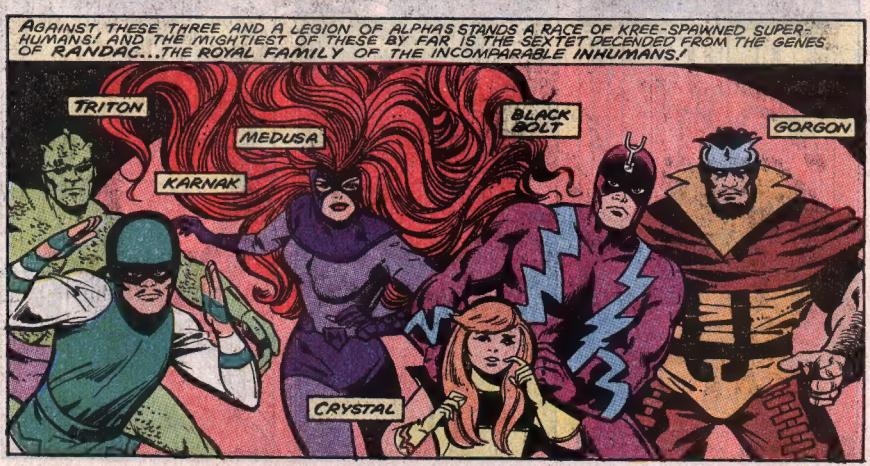
**INHUMANS SPECIAL Vol. 1, No. 1, April, 1990 Issue.** Published by MARVEL COMICS, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016. Published annually. Copyright © 1990 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.00 in Canada. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. INHUMANS SPECIAL (including all prominent characters featured in the issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) are trademarks of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC.

BLACK BOLT RULES HIS PEOPLE AS HIS FATHER DID BEFORE HIM ...WITH AN EASY YOKE UPON THEM, AND A SOMEWHAT WEIGHTIER ONE ON HIMSELF.
ONE OF THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS LIES JUST BEYOND THIS DOOR, WHICH RESPONDS TO HIS OWN PALM-PRINT...
...AND, RESPONDING TO HIM, SWINGS INWARD...
...REVEALING, IN DIM OUTLINE, A SLEEPING FIGURE...A MAN SEEMINGLY AT PEACE...
...HIS RIVAL...HIS ENEMY...HIS ETERNAL BURDEN... HIS BROTHER, MAXIMUS! MAXIMUS THE MAD!
NONE HAS EVER PRESENTED GREATER THREAT TO THE INHUMANS THAN MAXIMUS, WHO HAS IMPOSED TYRANNY ON HIS OWN PEOPLE, TIME AFTER TIME...ONLY TO BE BEATEN BACK BY HIS BROTHER, BY AN EVER SLIMMER MARGIN OF VICTORY EACH TIME!
BUT IT IS THE FIRST SUCH TIME THAT BLACK BOLT RECALLS NOW...A TIME MANY YEARS GONE, WHEN BOTH WERE YOUNG AND WARS WERE ANCIENT HISTORY...
...OR WAS IT ONLY YESTERDAY WHEN THE GREAT REFUGE EXISTED IN THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAINS ON THE PLANET EARTH?
LISTEN WELL--WHAT LITTLE PSYCHO-POWER I RETAIN SHOULD STIMULATE YOUR INTELLIGENCES TO NEAR-HUMAN LEVEL! YOU DO REMEMBER YOUR PARTS DON'T YOU?
AYE, MAXIMUS!
FOR 500 YEARS, WE HAVE SLAVED FOR YOUR KIND! BUT TONIGHT--
TONIGHT, THE ALPHA PRIMITIVES ARISE!

THE TERRIGEN MIST CHAMBER IS ONE OF ATTILAN'S MOST HALLOWED EDIFICES. HERE ARE STORED THE MISTS WHICH TRANSFORM HUMAN INTO INHUMAN, BEQUEATHING THE STRANGE, UNPREDICTABLE POWERS OF A LOST RACE!
AND EVER HAS IT STOOD INVIOLATE AGAINST PLUNDERERS... THAT IS UNTIL TONIGHT.
GOOD KILL! HE WAS SHOCKED BY THE SIGHT OF A WEAPON IN YOUR HAND... AND HE COULD NOT IMAGINE WE WOULD FIRE ON HIM!
ARRRRHHHH!
AND WHY NOT? SINCE OUR CREATION, NO ALPHA PRIMITIVE HAS EVER BEEN ALLOWED TO WIELD A HANDGUN!
NOR HAVE WE EVER DARED REBELLION... BEFORE TONIGHT!
BUT UNLESS WE SUCCEED, THERE CAN BE NO REBELLION!
ARE THE CONTROLS AS MAXIMUS SAID THEY WOULD BE, BROTHER?
AYE! PREPARE FOR TERRIGEN IMMERSION!
WE MUST SUBJECT OURSELVES TO A MIST CONCENTRATION HIGHER THAN ANY INHUMAN HAS EVER DARED!
ONLY THUS CAN WE GAIN... THE POWER... EVEN AT THE RISK OF DEATH!
BUT IF WE SURVIVE... OUR RACE SHALL RULE... AND THE INHUMANS WILL SURELY DIE!

BOOOM!


AND AFTER THE SMOKE HAS CLEARED THE THREE LEADERS OF THE INHUMANS SLAVE RACE APPEAR, TRANSFORMED INTO A NEW FORM OF LIFE!
INSTEAD OF CLUMSY WORKERS' BODIES, THEIR NEW, SPHEROID FORMS BLAZE FORTH WITH A FEARSOME AURA OF RAW MENTAL ENERGY.
THEY HAVE SURVIVED, AND GAINED THE MIGHT TO LEAD THE ALPHA PRIMITIVES TO WAR NOW AND FOREVER... THEY HAVE BECOME THE TRIKON!


AGAINST THESE THREE AND A LEGION OF ALPHAS STANDS A RACE OF KREE-SPAWNED SUPER-HUMANS! AND THE MIGHTIEST OF THESE BY FAR IS THE SEXTET DECENDED FROM THE GENES OF RANDAC...THE ROYAL FAMILY OF THE INCOMPARABLE INHUMANS!
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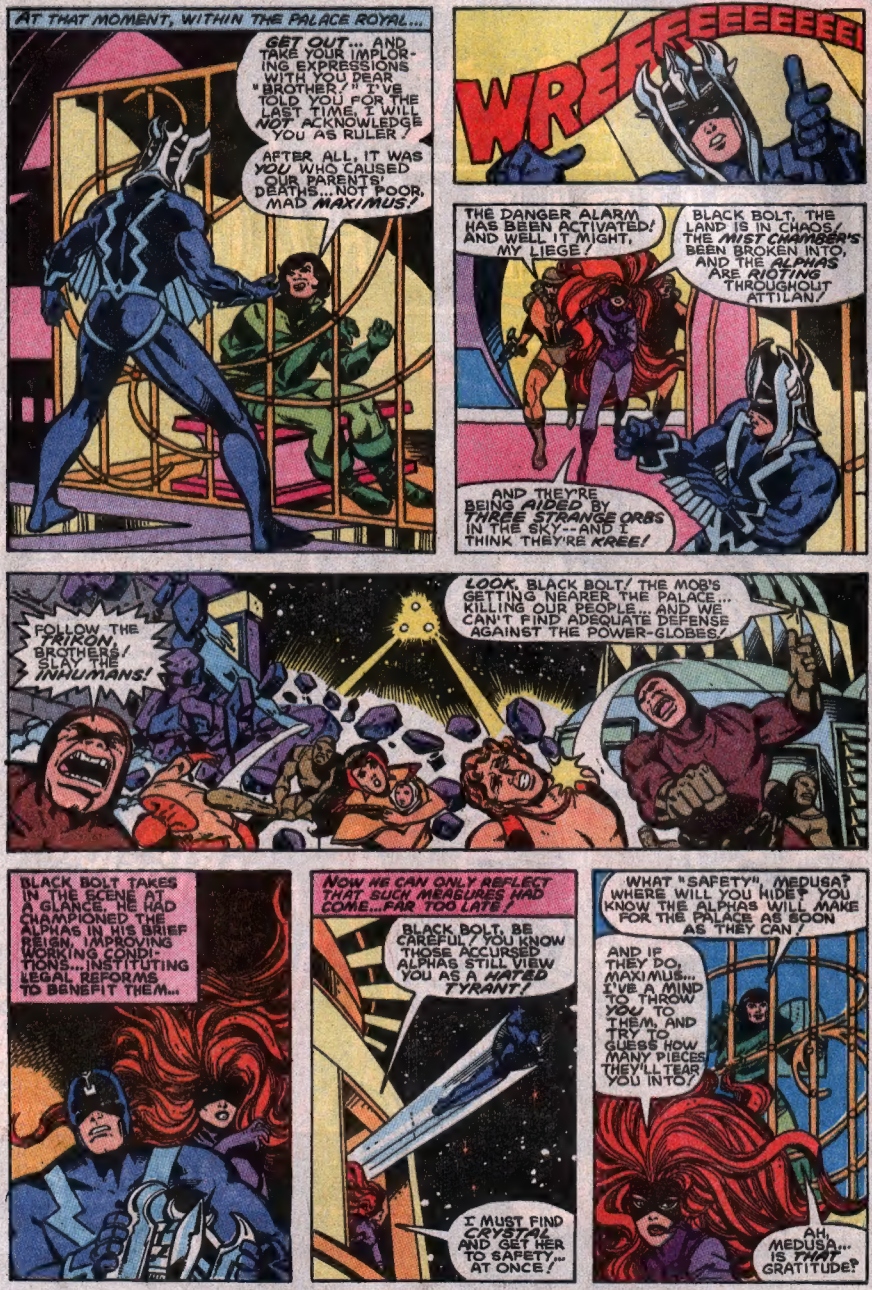
AT THAT MOMENT, WITHIN THE PALACE ROYAL...
GET OUT... AND TAKE YOUR IMPLORING EXPRESSIONS WITH YOU DEAR "BROTHER," I'VE TOLD YOU FOR THE LAST TIME, I WILL NOT ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS RULER!
AFTER ALL, IT WAS YOU WHO CAUSED OUR PARENTS' DEATHS...NOT POOR, MAD MAXIMUS!
WREEEEEEEEEE!
THE DANGER ALARM HAS BEEN ACTIVATED! AND WELL IT MIGHT, MY LIEGE!
BLACK BOLT, THE LAND IS IN CHAOS! THE MIST CHAMBER'S BEEN BROKEN INTO, AND THE ALPHAS ARE RIOTING THROUGHOUT ATTILAN!
AND THEY'RE BEING AIDED BY THREE STRANGE ORBS IN THE SKY--AND I THINK THEY'RE KREE!
FOLLOW THE TRITON, BROTHERS! SLAY THE INHUMANS!
LOOK, BLACK BOLT! THE MOB'S GETTING NEARER THE PALACE... KILLING OUR PEOPLE... AND WE CAN'T FIND ADEQUATE DEFENSE AGAINST THE POWER-GLOBES!
BLACK BOLT TAKES IN THE SCENE AT A GLANCE. HE HAD CHAMPIONED THE ALPHAS IN HIS BRIEF REIGN, IMPROVING WORKING CONDITIONS... INSTITUTING LEGAL REFORMS TO BENEFIT THEM...
NOW HE CAN ONLY REFLECT THAT SUCH MEASURES HAD COME...FAR TOO LATE!
BLACK BOLT, BE CAREFUL! YOU KNOW THOSE ACCURSED ALPHAS STILL VIEW YOU AS A HATED TYRANT!
I MUST FIND CRYSTAL AND GET HER TO SAFETY... AT ONCE!
WHAT "SAFETY," MEDUSA? WHERE WILL YOU HIDE? YOU KNOW THE ALPHAS WILL MAKE FOR THE PALACE AS SOON AS THEY CAN!
AND IF THEY DO, MAXIMUS... I'VE A MIND TO THROW YOU TO THEM, AND TRY TO GUESS HOW MANY PIECES THEY'LL TEAR YOU INTO!
AH, MEDUSA... IS THAT GRATITUDE?

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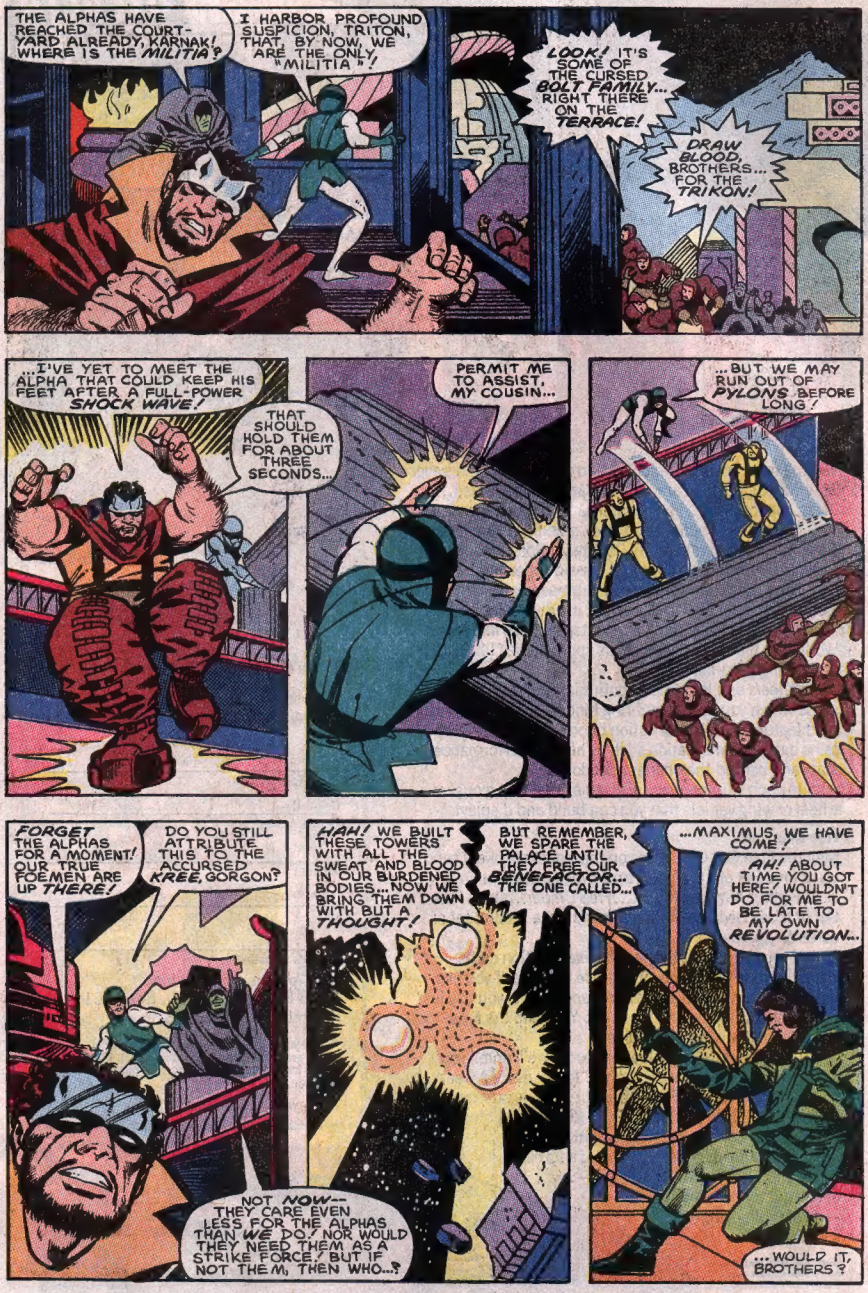
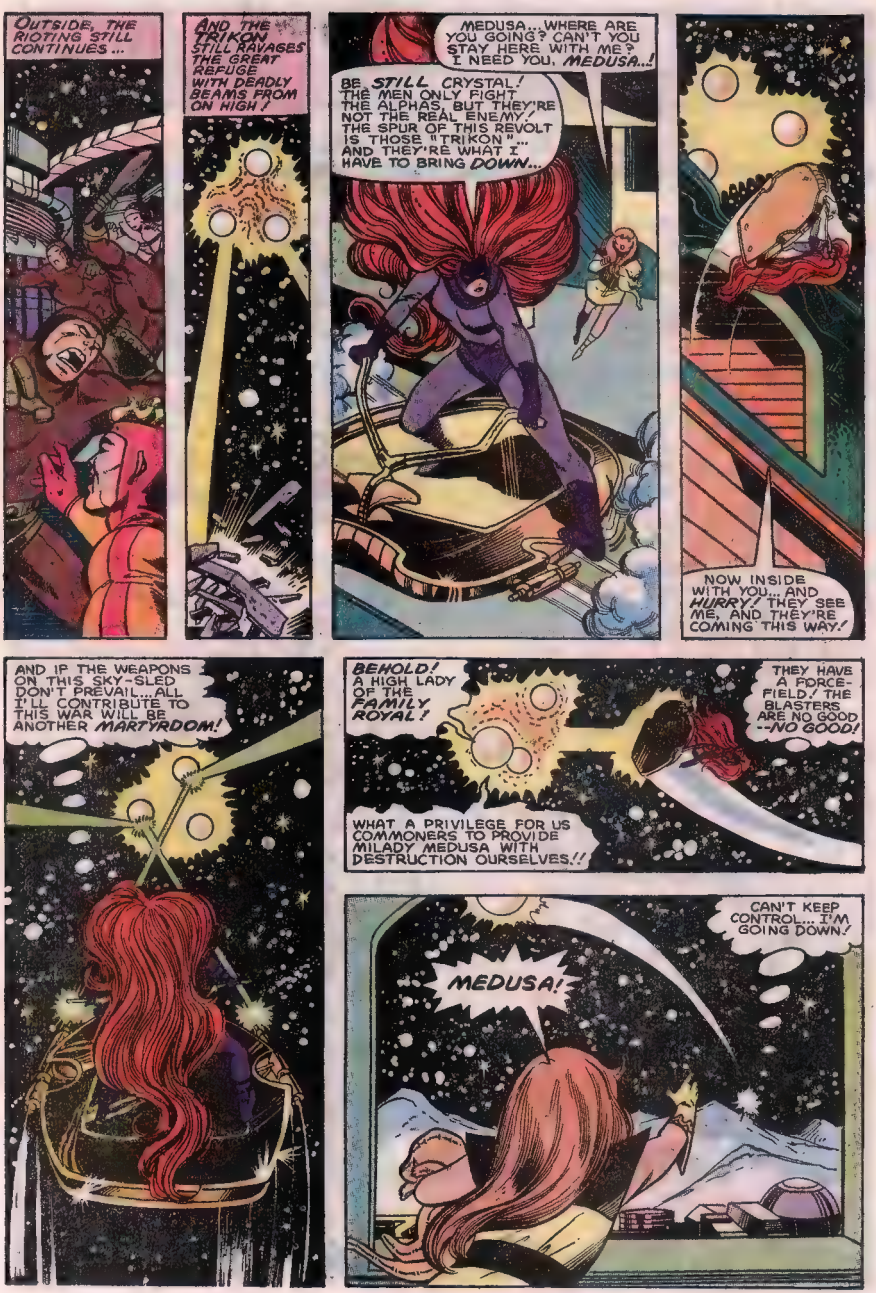

THE ALPHAS HAVE REACHED THE COURTYARD ALREADY, KARNAK! WHERE IS THE MILITIA?
I HARBOR PROFOUND SUSPICION, TRITON, THAT, BY NOW, WE ARE THE ONLY "MILITIA"!
LOOK! IT'S SOME OF THE CURSED BOLT FAMILY... RIGHT THERE ON THE TERRACE!
DRAW BLOOD, BROTHERS... FOR THE TRIKON!
...I'VE YET TO MEET THE ALPHA THAT COULD KEEP HIS FEET AFTER A FULL-POWER SHOCK WAVE!
THAT SHOULD HOLD THEM FOR ABOUT THREE SECONDS...
PERMIT ME TO ASSIST, MY COUSIN...
...BUT WE MAY RUN OUT OF PYLONS BEFORE LONG!
FORGET THE ALPHAS FOR A MOMENT! OUR TRUE FOEMEN ARE UP THERE!
DO YOU STILL ATTRIBUTE THIS TO THE ACCURSED KREE, GORGON?
NOT NOW— THEY CARE EVEN LESS FOR THE ALPHAS THAN WE DO! NOR WOULD THEY NEED THEM AS A STRIKE FORCE! BUT IF NOT THEM, THEN WHO...?
HAH! WE BUILT THESE TOWERS WITH ALL THE SWEAT AND BLOOD IN OUR BURDENED BODIES... NOW WE BRING THEM DOWN WITH BUT A THOUGHT!
BUT REMEMBER, WE SPARE THE PALACE UNTIL THEY FREE OUR BENEFACTOR... THE ONE CALLED...
...MAXIMUS. WE HAVE COME!
AH! ABOUT TIME YOU GOT HERE! WOULDN'T DO FOR ME TO BE LATE TO MY OWN REVOLUTION...
...WOULD IT, BROTHERS?


OUTSIDE, THE RIOTING STILL CONTINUES...
AND THE TRIKON STILL RAVAGES THE GREAT REFUGE WITH DEADLY BEAMS FROM ON HIGH!
MEDUSA... WHERE ARE YOU GOING? CAN'T YOU STAY HERE WITH ME? I NEED YOU, MEDUSA...!
BE STILL, CRYSTAL! THE MEN ONLY FIGHT THE ALPHAS, BUT THEY'RE NOT THE REAL ENEMY! THE SPUR OF THIS REVOLT IS THOSE "TRIKON"... AND THEY'RE WHAT I HAVE TO BRING DOWN...
NOW INSIDE WITH YOU... AND HURRY! THEY SEE ME, AND THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY!
AND IF THE WEAPONS ON THIS SKY-SLED DON'T PREVAIL... ALL I'LL CONTRIBUTE TO THIS WAR WILL BE ANOTHER MARTYRDOM!
BEHOLD! A HIGH LADY OF THE FAMILY ROYAL!
THEY HAVE A FORCE-FIELD! THE BLASTERS ARE NO GOOD --NO GOOD!
WHAT A PRIVILEGE FOR US COMMONERS TO PROVIDE MILADY MEDUSA WITH DESTRUCTION OURSELVES!!
MEDUSA!
CAN'T KEEP CONTROL... I'M GOING DOWN!

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**3 PHILADELPHIA, PA. -**
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**3-4 BOSTON, MASS. -**
57 PARK PLAZA HOTEL, 200 Stuart St.

**4 MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. -**
MARRIOTT BLOOMINGTON, I-494 at Cedar Ave.

**11 NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. -**
HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, 2 Albany Street

**17-18 CHICAGO, ILL. -**
HOLIDAY INN O'HARE, 5440 N. River Rd., Rosemont

**17 LONG ISLAND, N.Y. -**
MARRIOTT AT UNIONDALE, on Hempstead Thpke.

**18 WAYNE, N.J. -**
RAMADA INN, Route 46 West, ¼ m. from Willowbrook Mall.

**24 NEW HAVEN, CT. -**
PARK PLAZA HOTEL, 155 Temple St.

**25 N.Y., N.Y. -**
ROOSEVELT HOTEL, 45th St. and Madison Ave.

**25 SPRINGFIELD, N.J. -**
SPRINGFIELD HOLIDAY INN, 304 Rte. 22 W. 4 m. W of GS Pkwy.

**31 PARAMUS, N.J. -**
TREADWAY INN, 601 from Rd. Exit 165 off G.S. Pkwy.

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CONVENTION
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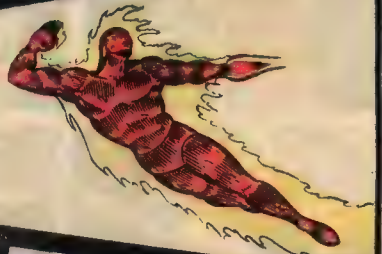
200 STUART STREET
MARCH 3 & 4, 1990



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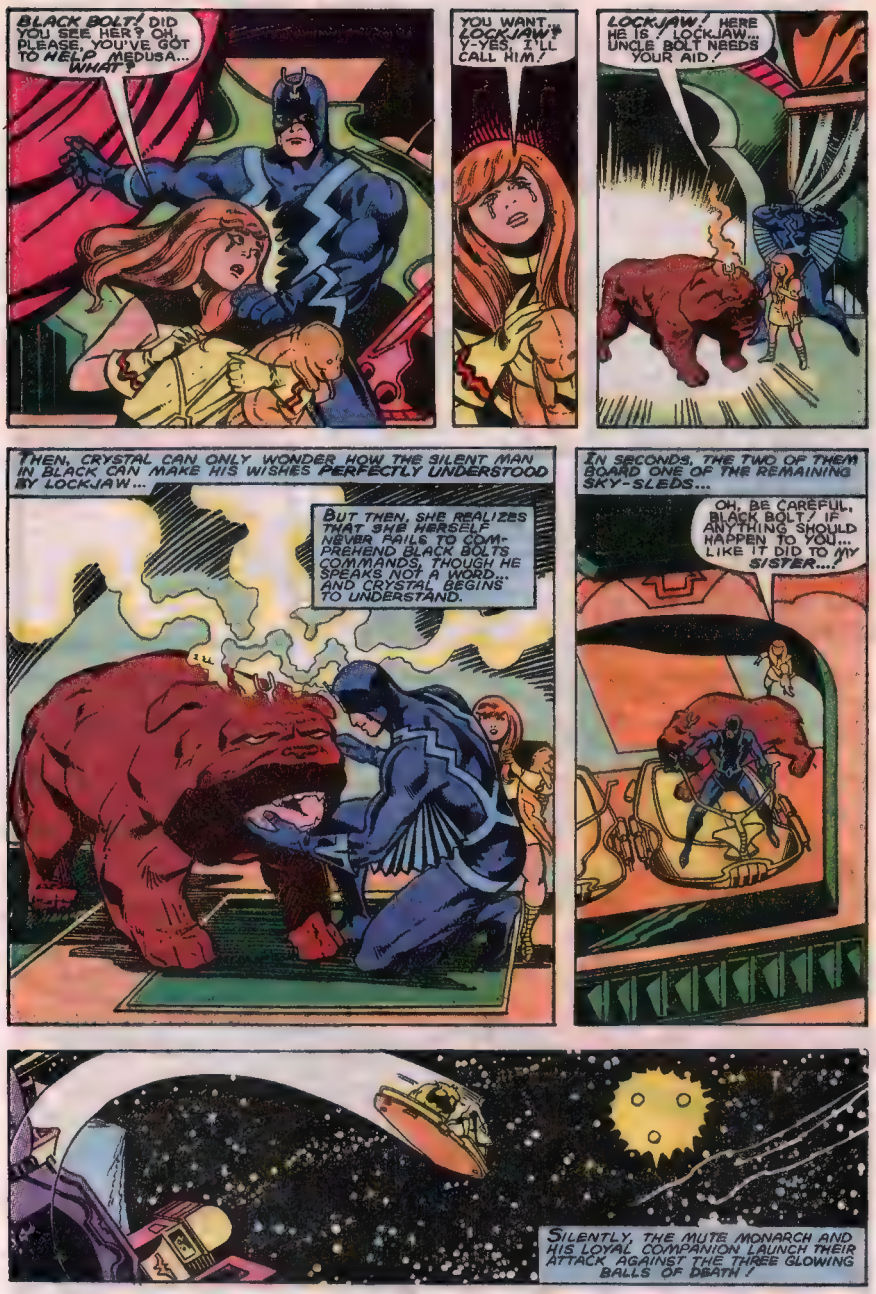
BLACK BOLT! DID YOU SEE HER? OH, PLEASE, YOU'VE GOT TO HELP MEDUSA...
WHAT?
YOU WANT LOCKJAW? Y-YES, I'LL CALL HIM!
LOCKJAW! HERE HE IS / LOCKJAW... UNCLE BOLT NEEDS YOUR AID!
THEN, CRYSTAL CAN ONLY WONDER HOW THE SILENT MAN IN BLACK CAN MAKE HIS WISHES PERFECTLY UNDERSTOOD BY LOCKJAW...
BUT THEN, SHE REALIZES THAT SHE HERSELF NEVER FAILS TO COMPREHEND BLACK BOLTS COMMANDS, THOUGH HE SPEAKS NOT A WORD... AND CRYSTAL BEGINS TO UNDERSTAND.
IN SECONDS, THE TWO OF THEM BOARD ONE OF THE REMAINING SKY-SLEDS...
OH, BE CAREFUL, BLACK BOLT! IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO YOU... LIKE IT DID TO MY SISTER...!
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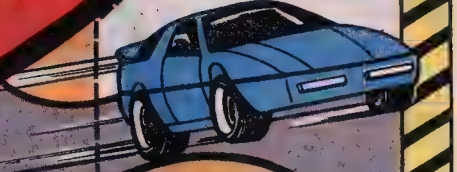

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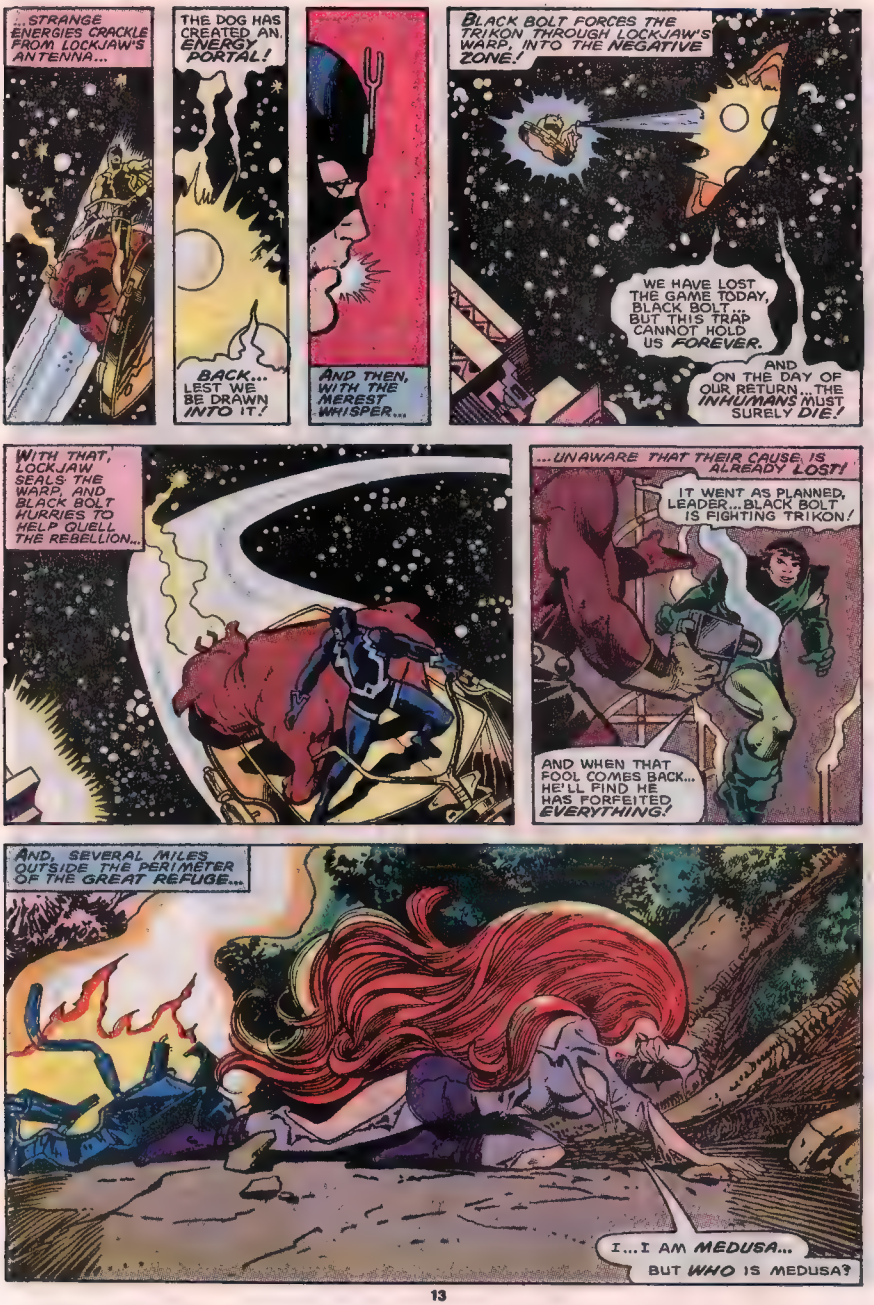

...STRANGE ENERGIES CRACKLE FROM LOCKJAW'S ANTENNA...
THE DOG HAS CREATED AN ENERGY PORTAL!
BACK... LEST WE BE DRAWN INTO IT!
AND THEN, WITH THE MEREST WHISPER...
BLACK BOLT FORCES THE TRIKON THROUGH LOCKJAW'S WARP, INTO THE NEGATIVE ZONE!
WE HAVE LOST THE GAME TODAY, BLACK BOLT... BUT THIS TRAP CANNOT HOLD US FOREVER.
AND ON THE DAY OF OUR RETURN... THE INHUMANS MUST SURELY DIE!
WITH THAT, LOCKJAW SEALS THE WARP, AND BLACK BOLT HURRIES TO HELP QUELL THE REBELLION...
...UNAWARE THAT THEIR CAUSE IS ALREADY LOST!
IT WENT AS PLANNED, LEADER... BLACK BOLT IS FIGHTING TRIKON!
AND WHEN THAT FOOL COMES BACK... HE'LL FIND HE HAS FORFEITED EVERYTHING!
AND, SEVERAL MILES OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER OF THE GREAT REFUGE...
I... I AM MEDUSA...
BUT WHO IS MEDUSA?

CHAPTER TWO
A THRONE, IN DARKNESS!
MERE MINUTES AFTER THE DEFEAT OF THE TRIKON, BLACK BOLT AND THOSE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY WHO REMAIN, REGROUP WITHIN THE PALACE. AN OUTER THREAT HAS BEEN ABATED...BUT AN INNER THREAT STILL REMAINS...!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF THE GODS?!
COUSIN KARNAK... WHO'S THAT IN UNCLE BOLT'S HAT?
BY THE SACRED SEAL OF RANDAC! WE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN NO REVOLUTION EXISTS WITHOUT ORGANIZERS...
AYE, COUSIN! AND NO ALPHA PRIMITIVE COULD HAVE ENGINEERED THIS REBELLION --NOT WITHOUT THE AID OF--

--MAXIMUS!
THE SAME! I DECIDED TO KEEP THE THRONE WARM WHILE YOU WERE OUT, BROTHER...
...AND I LIKED IT SO MUCH I THOUGHT I'D KEEP IT, WHAT SAY YOU TO THAT?
I'LL SHOW YOU OUR APPRECI-ATION BY RELIEVING YOU OF THAT HEAVY CROWN AFTER I YANK YOU THROUGH THE TOP OF IT!
CAREFUL, GORGON! MAXIMUS WOULD NOT EXPOSE HIM-SELF THIS WAY WITHOUT ...INSURANCE!
AH, KARNAK...AS ALWAYS, YOUR DEDUCTIVE POWERS ARE THE BEST OF THE CLAN! VERY WELL, THEN-- GUARD!
DISPLAY THE PRISONER, IF YOU PLEASE!
GORGON! SON... THEY'VE GOT YOUR MOTHER... I COULDN'T FIGHT THEM...
WH--FATHER! MY FATHER!
BY ALL MY ANCESTORS, IF YOU HARM HIM, MY HOOVES SHALL DANCE TILL YOUR VERY ATOMS SCREAM FOR MERCY!
P-PUT ME DOWN... OR I'LL HAVE HIM KILLED.
GORGON! CEASE THIS ACTION! YOUR PARENTS' LIVES ARE AT STAKE!
IF ONLY MY LIFE WERE AT STAKE, I'D SEND THIS SERPENT TO THE PITS! BUT... MY MOTHER AND FATHER--!
UMPH!
YOU FOOLS THINK ONLY TWO LIVES ARE WAGERING-PIECES? COME WITH ME!

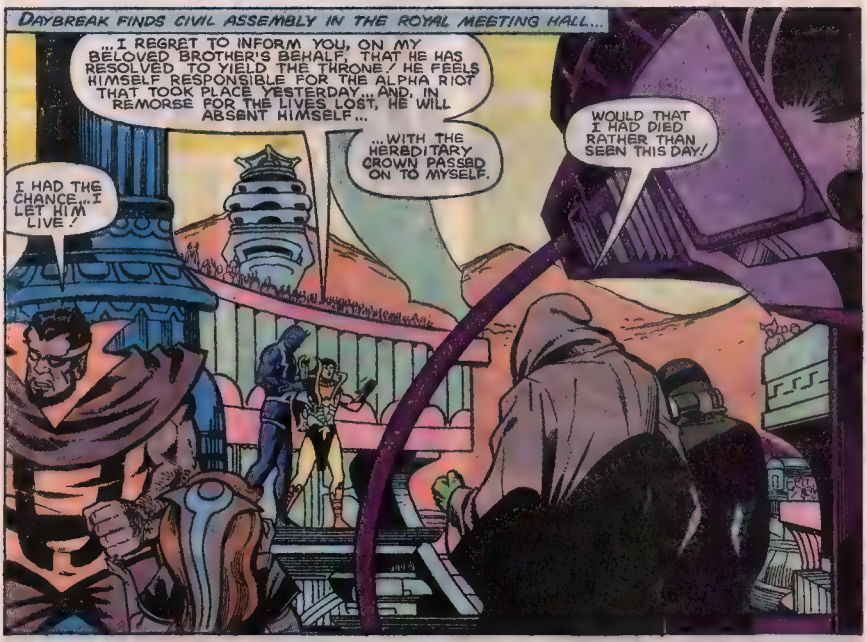
WHERE ARE WE BOUND, MAXIMUS? I'VE NEVER BEEN IN THIS CORRIDOR!
I HAVE KNOWN IT SINCE CHILDHOOD, COUSINS! REMEMBER THOSE LONG PERIODS WHEN NO ONE COULD FIND ME? WELL, I SEARCHED OUT MANY OF THESE PASSAGES, BUILT AGES BEFORE! WHEN CIVIL WAR ERUPTED IN THE REALM!
BLACK BOLT, I WANT TO FIND MY SISTER! SHE MIGHT BE HURT!
FORGET MEDUSA! CONCERN YOURSELVES WITH THESE...
HOSTAGES!
EXACTLY! CULLED FROM THE CREAM OF ATTILAN'S SOCIETY BY MY LOYALISTS... INTELLECTUALS, SCIENTISTS, ADMINISTRATORS... THE ONES YOU DARE NOT SACRIFICE! AND AMONG THEM, GORGON, IS YOUR MOTHER!
CURSE YOU, MAXIMUS!
GORGON--DON'T--! THE OTHER GUARDS WILL SLAUGHTER THE HOSTAGES!
GREAT RANDAC! STOP!!
THAT'S TWO OF YOUR PRECIOUS HOSTAGES DOWN, BLACK BOLT! CARE TO TRY FOR THE LOT OF THEM?
NOOOOOOO!
IN THAT INSTANT, GORGON LOSES CONTROL--HIS ONLY THOUGHT: TO SMASH THE USURPER...NO MATTER WHAT THE CONSEQUENCE!
BUT NOT EVEN RAGE IS PROOF AGAINST BLACK BOLT'S MASTER BLOW!
THOSE PEOPLE... WH-WHY DID THEY HAVE TO KILL 'EM?
JUST GIVE HIM THAT STUPID HAT, UNCLE, AND MAKE HIM STOP KILLING THOSE PEOPLE...PLEASE!

YES, GIVE ME THE CROWN, DEAR BROTHER! THAT AND THE THRONE TO THIS KINGDOM. IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE THEIR WRETCHED LIVES!
YOU CAN KILL ME--YOU CAN KILL MY MEN--BUT NOT BEFORE WE KILL MOST OF THE HOSTAGES! AND IF YOU DON'T THINK I'LL SUPPORT THAT THREAT--TRY ME!

PARASITE! YOU WERE THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS REVOLUTION! ONLY YOU COULD HAVE WELDED THE ALPHAS AND DISGRUNTLED INHUMANS INTO A SINGLE REBEL FORCE!
SO TRUE. SO TRUE! YET, BLACK BOLT LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR MY COUP HIMSELF! AFTER ALL HOW MANY PROUD PATRIOTIC INHUMANS WOULD LONG FOLLOW THE LEAD OF...AN ALPHA-LOVER?

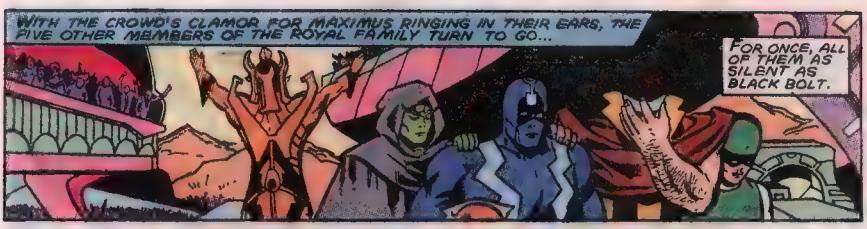
YEEARGHH! MY FOOT! YOU...YOU BLITHERING BRAT! I'LL SEE YOU IN IRONS FOR THIS!
I DON'T CARE! MY SISTER MAY BE DEAD, AN' ALL 'CAUSE YOU WANTED TO BE KING! I-I'D LIKE TO BURN YOU ALL UP!
CRYSTAL!!

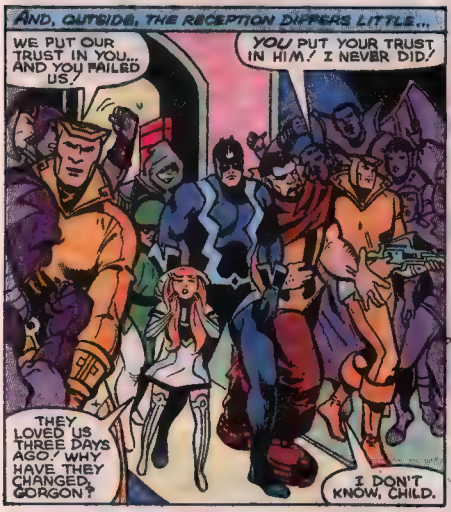
THEN THERE IS SILENCE...AS BLACK BOLT PONDERS. HIS BROTHER, MAXIMUS, IS A FORMER KREE COLLABORATOR...A HALF-MAD PLOTTER WHO HAS, PERHAPS, CAUSED THE DEATH OF MEDUSA. IN HIS HANDS, THE GREAT REFUGE WILL BECOME A POLICE STATE.
AND YET, WHAT OF THE PRISONERS? THE LIVES OF HALF THE SCIENTISTS, PRIESTS, AND COUNCILMEN TURN ON HIS NEXT MOVE. DARE HE RISK CONDEMNING THEM TO UNDESERVED DEATH? CAN HE EVER TELL HIS PEOPLE--OR HIMSELF--THAT A THRONE WAS WORTH A BLOODBATH?

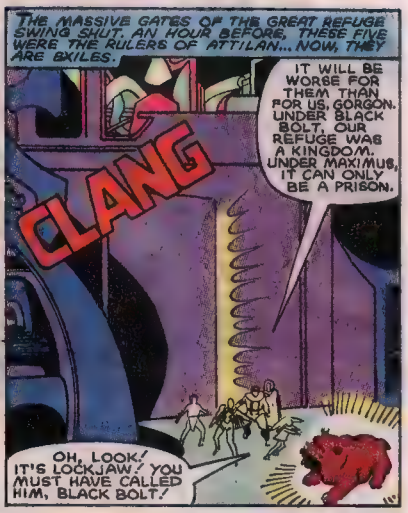

DAYBREAK FINDS CIVIL ASSEMBLY IN THE ROYAL MEETING HALL...
...I REGRET TO INFORM YOU, ON MY BELOVED BROTHER'S BEHALF, THAT HE HAS RESOLVED TO YIELD THE THRONE / HE FEELS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ALPHA RIOT THAT TOOK PLACE YESTERDAY ... AND, IN REMORSE FOR THE LIVES LOST, HE WILL ABSENT HIMSELF...
...WITH THE HEREDITARY CROWN PASSED ON TO MYSELF.
I HAD THE CHANCE...I LET HIM LIVE!
WOULD THAT I HAD DIED RATHER THAN SEEN THIS DAY!

MAXIMUS IS LYING... HE MUST BE! BLACK BOLT WOULD NEVER BETRAY US IN THIS MANNER!
WE HAD SUCH HOPES FOR THIS ERA... AND NOW THEY'RE GONE.
AND TO THINK I WOULD HAVE GIVEN MY LIFE TWICE OVER FOR BLACK BOLT-- BEFORE TODAY!
GET THE ALPHA LOVER OUT! EVEN A MADMAN WILL BE BETTER IF HE PUTS INHUMANS FIRST!

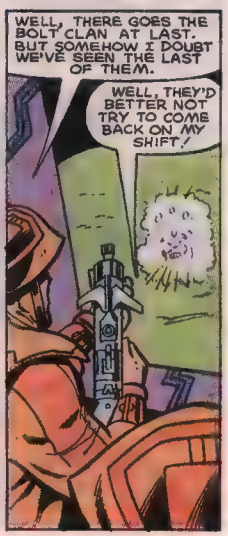
THIRTY MINUTES LATER, THE WORDLESS MAN PLACES THE CROWN ON HIS BROTHER'S HEAD. THE THRONE ENDURES... BUT IN DARKNESS.
MAXIMUS IS KING!

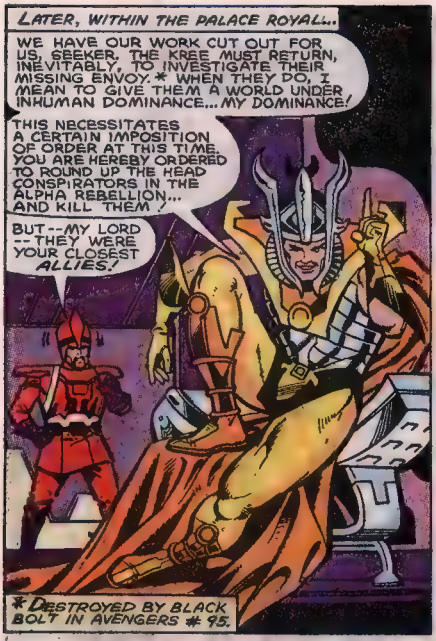

WITH THE CROWD'S CLAMOR FOR MAXIMUS RINGING IN THEIR EARS, THE FIVE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY TURN TO GO...
FOR ONCE, ALL OF THEM AS SILENT AS BLACK BOLT.


AND, OUTSIDE, THE RECEPTION DIFFERS LITTLE...
WE PUT OUR TRUST IN YOU... AND YOU FAILED US!
YOU PUT YOUR TRUST IN HIM! I NEVER DID!
THEY LOVED US THREE DAYS AGO! WHY HAVE THEY CHANGED, GORGON?
I DON'T KNOW, CHILD.

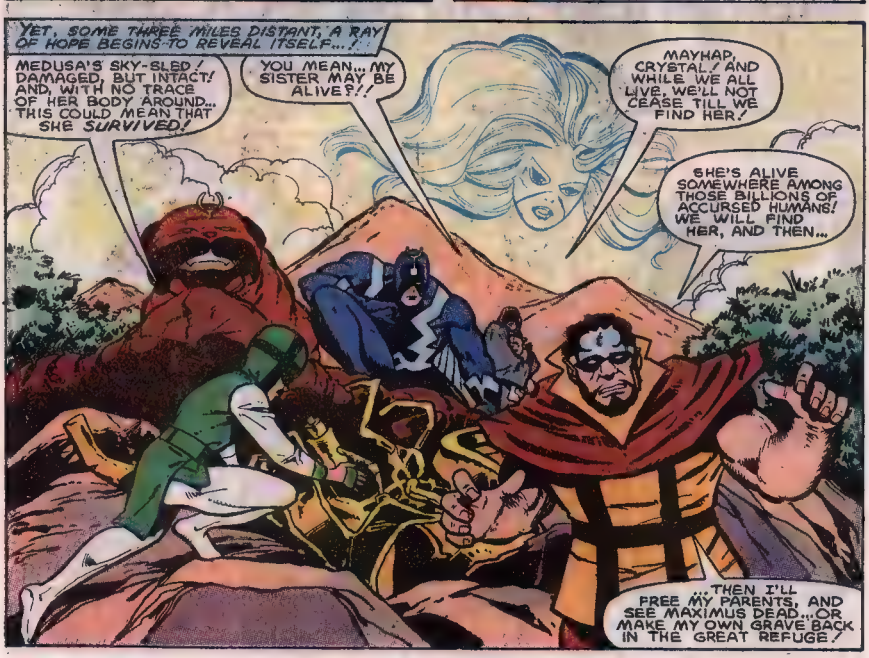

THE MASSIVE GATES OF THE GREAT REFUGE SWING SHUT. AN HOUR BEFORE, THESE FIVE WERE THE RULERS OF ATTILAN... NOW, THEY ARE EXILES.
CLANG
IT WILL BE WORSE FOR THEM THAN FOR US, GORGON. UNDER BLACK BOLT, OUR REFUGE WAS A KINGDOM. UNDER MAXIMUS, IT CAN ONLY BE A PRISON.
OH, LOOK! IT'S LOCKJAW! YOU MUST HAVE CALLED HIM, BLACK BOLT!

WHAT'S THAT? YOU WANT LOCKJAW TO TAKE US SOMEWHERE, BLACK BOLT? WHERE? TO... TO FIND MEDUSA?
BUT, WHAT IF SHE'S NOT--/
OH.
YES, I-I THINK I SAW WHERE SHE WENT DOWN... I'LL TRY.

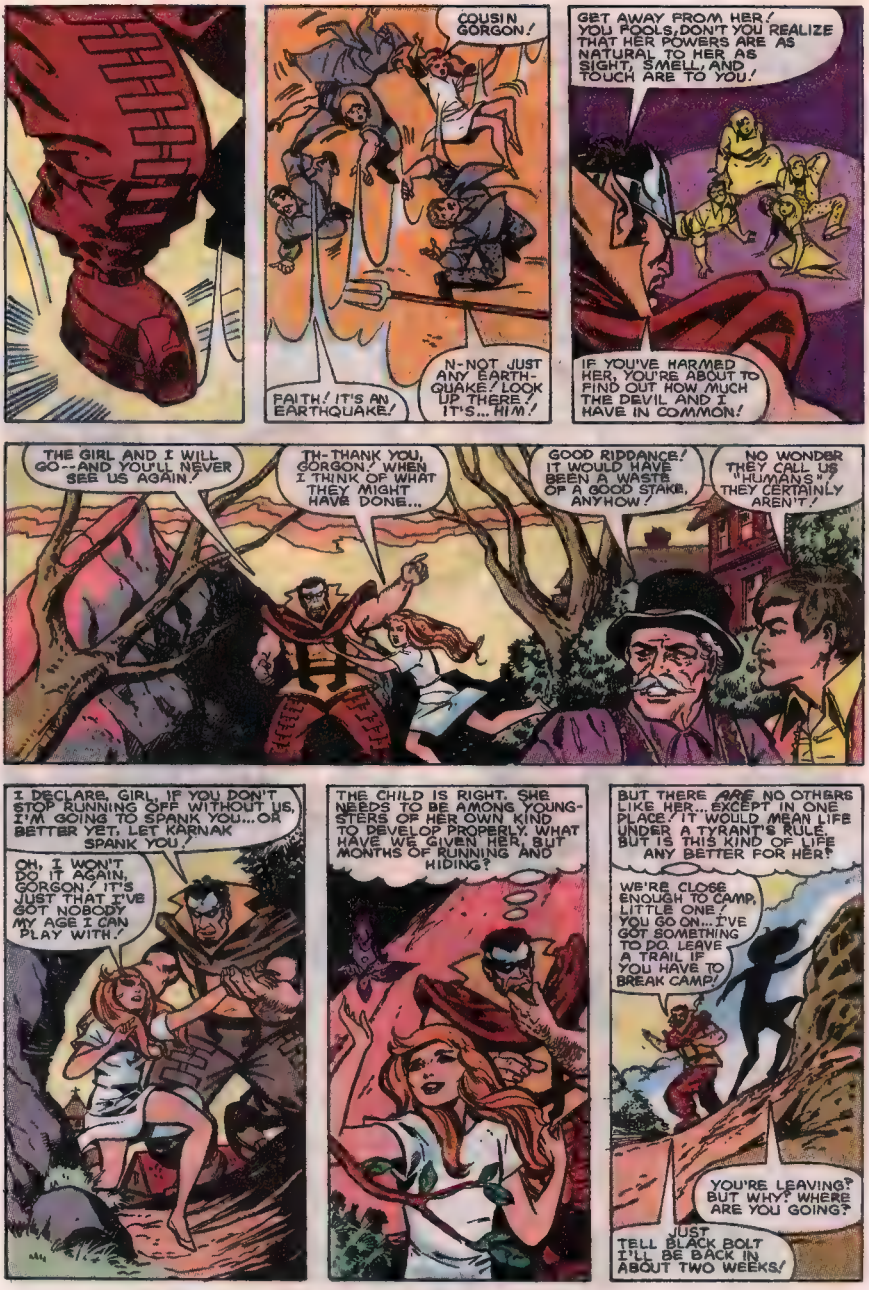

WELL, THERE GOES THE BOLT CLAN AT LAST. BUT SOMEHOW I DOUBT WE'VE SEEN THE LAST OF THEM.
WELL, THEY'D BETTER NOT TRY TO COME BACK ON MY SHIFT!


LATER, WITHIN THE PALACE ROYAL...
WE HAVE OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US, SEEKER. THE KREE MUST RETURN, INEVITABLY, TO INVESTIGATE THEIR MISSING ENVOY.* WHEN THEY DO, I MEAN TO GIVE THEM A WORLD UNDER INHUMAN DOMINANCE... MY DOMINANCE!
THIS NECESSITATES A CERTAIN IMPOSITION OF ORDER AT THIS TIME. YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO ROUND UP THE HEAD CONSPIRATORS IN THE ALPHA REBELLION... AND KILL THEM.
BUT--MY LORD --THEY WERE YOUR CLOSEST ALLIES!
*DESTROYED BY BLACK BOLT IN AVENGERS # 95.

I SAID KILL THEM, YOU FOOL! DO YOU THINK I WANT A REVOLUTION MADE AGAINST ME?
THEY THOUGHT I WANTED TO FREE THEM FROM SERVITUDE/ THE SCUM/ I'LL BUILD OUR GREATEST TRIUMPH OVER THEIR VERY BONES!
IN THE END, IT WILL BE INHUMAN OVER HUMAN/ AND ALL SUBJECT TO THE SUPREME LORD OF INHUMANS...TO MAXIMUS REX!

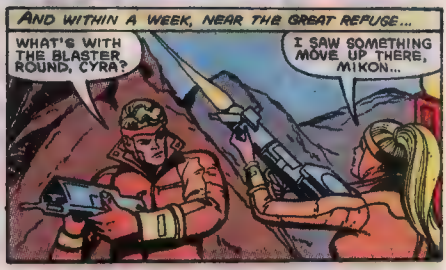

YET, SOME THREE MILES DISTANT, A RAY OF HOPE BEGINS TO REVEAL ITSELF...!
MEDUSA'S SKY-SLED/ DAMAGED, BUT INTACT! AND, WITH NO TRACE OF HER BODY AROUND... THIS COULD MEAN THAT SHE SURVIVED!
YOU MEAN... MY SISTER MAY BE ALIVE?!!
MAYHAP, CRYSTAL/ AND WHILE WE ALL LIVE, WE'LL NOT CEASE TILL WE FIND HER!
SHE'S ALIVE SOMEWHERE AMONG THOSE BILLIONS OF ACCURSED HUMANS! WE WILL FIND HER, AND THEN...
...THEN I'LL FREE MY PARENTS, AND SEE MAXIMUS DEAD...OR MAKE MY OWN GRAVE BACK IN THE GREAT REFUGE!

CHAPTER THREE
OF INHUMAN BONDAGE
FOR MONTHS, BLACK BOLT AND HIS FAMILY CONTINUE THEIR SEARCH FOR MEDUSA. BUT IN A WORLD OF HUMANS, THEIR FIRST THOUGHT MUST ALWAYS BE OF CONCEALMENT. FOR, WERE THEIR "FELLOW" MEN EVER TO BEHOLD THEIR AWESOME POWERS, THE INHUMANS MIGHT BECOME CANDIDATES FOR DESTRUCTION...AS TODAY!
BY THE GODS, WHAT'S CRYSTAL GOTTEN HERSELF INTO NOW?
I--I'M SORRY! I JUST POINTED THE WRONG WAY! LET ME GO AND I CAN PUT IT OUT WITH SOME RAIN-- PLEASE!
SHE'S A WITCH! SHE POINTED AT MY BARN, AND IT BURST INTO FLAMES!
YOU HEAR THAT? SHE CAN CONTROL THE ELEMENTS. SHE'S A WITCH-CHILD!
BUT SHE DIDN'T MEAN TO MAMA! SHE SAID SHE COULD DO IT, AND WE DARED HER TO!
YOU GAVE A DARE TO A DEMON! THANK THE LORD THAT YOU ESCAPED!


COUSIN GORGON!
FAITH! IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE!
N-NOT JUST ANY EARTHQUAKE! LOOK UP THERE! IT'S... HIM!
GET AWAY FROM HER! YOU FOOLS, DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT HER POWERS ARE AS NATURAL TO HER AS SIGHT, SMELL, AND TOUCH ARE TO YOU!
IF YOU'VE HARMED HER, YOU'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH THE DEVIL AND I HAVE IN COMMON!
THE GIRL AND I WILL GO--AND YOU'LL NEVER SEE US AGAIN!
TH-THANK YOU, GORGON. WHEN I THINK OF WHAT THEY MIGHT HAVE DONE...
GOOD RIDDANCE! IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A WASTE OF A GOOD STAKE, ANYHOW!
NO WONDER THEY CALL US "HUMANS"! THEY CERTAINLY AREN'T!
I DECLARE, GIRL, IF YOU DON'T STOP RUNNING OFF WITHOUT US, I'M GOING TO SPANK YOU... OR BETTER YET, LET KARNAK SPANK YOU!
OH, I WON'T DO IT AGAIN, GORGON! IT'S JUST THAT I'VE GOT NOBODY MY AGE I CAN PLAY WITH!
THE CHILD IS RIGHT. SHE NEEDS TO BE AMONG YOUNGSTERS OF HER OWN KIND TO DEVELOP PROPERLY. WHAT HAVE WE GIVEN HER, BUT MONTHS OF RUNNING AND HIDING?
BUT THERE *ARE* NO OTHERS LIKE HER... EXCEPT IN ONE PLACE. IT WOULD MEAN LIFE UNDER A TYRANT'S RULE. BUT IS THIS KIND OF LIFE ANY BETTER FOR HER?
WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAMP, LITTLE ONE. YOU GO ON... I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO. LEAVE A TRAIL IF YOU HAVE TO BREAK CAMP!
YOU'RE LEAVING? BUT WHY? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
JUST TELL BLACK BOLT I'LL BE BACK IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS!

AT LAST./ THANK AGON YOU'RE BACK, CRYSTAL./ AND NEXT TIME DON'T RUN OFF ALONE LIKE THAT, OR YOU WON'T SIT DOWN FOR A WEEK./
DON'T WORRY, TRITON./ I'VE ALREADY PROMISED GORGON I'LL BE GOOD./
THEN, WHY IS HE NOT WITH YOU.

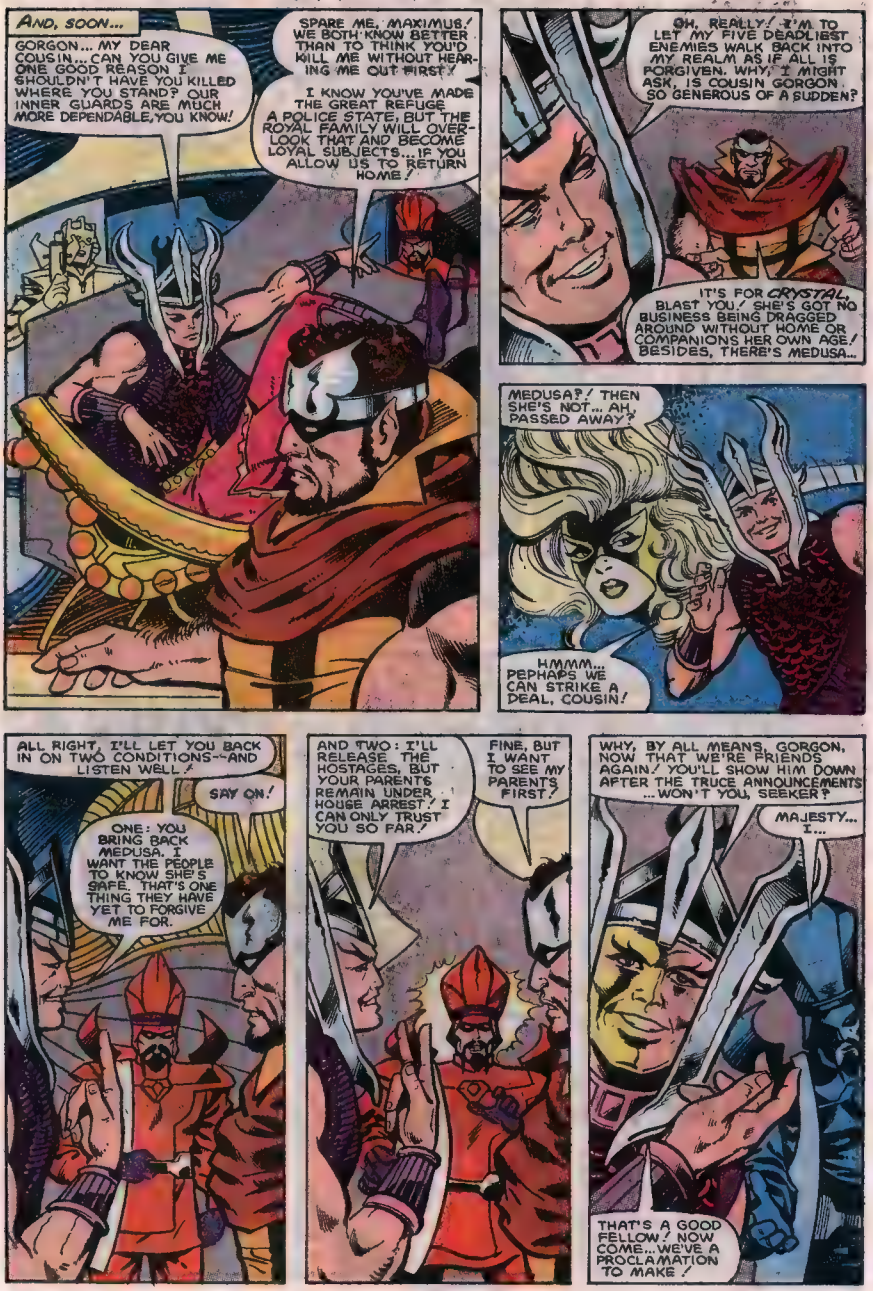
HE LEFT ME AN' SAID HE'D BE BACK IN TWO WEEKS./
BLACK BOLT, WE HAVE TO STOP HIM!
I THINK NOT! IF HE WANTED US ALONG, HE WOULD HAVE SAID SO. I SAY GIVE HIM HIS TWO WEEKS, AND THEN FOLLOW.


AND WITHIN A WEEK, NEAR THE GREAT REFUGE...
WHAT'S WITH THE BLASTER ROUND, CYRA?
I SAW SOMETHING MOVE UP THERE, MIKON...

LOOK SHARP! MAXIMUS HAS MONITORS ON THESE GUNS, AND YOU KNOW WHAT HE'LL DO IF WE RETURN WITHOUT SOMETHING FOR OUR EFFORTS!
I KNOW! FORTY-SEVEN DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF DISCIPLINE...
YOUR CHOICE. WHAT DID THAT THING LOOK LIKE, ANYWAY?

DID IT LOOK LIKE ME?
GORGON!
UNGHHH!

...YOU CAN SAVE YOURSELF ANY PENALTIES BY BRINGING ME TO MAXIMUS HIMSELF / AND WE'LL ALL FEEL MORE SECURE --
--WITHOUT THESE!


AND, SOON...
GORGON... MY DEAR COUSIN... CAN YOU GIVE ME ONE GOOD REASON I SHOULDN'T HAVE YOU KILLED WHERE YOU STAND? OUR INNER GUARDS ARE MUCH MORE DEPENDABLE, YOU KNOW!
SPARE ME, MAXIMUS! WE BOTH KNOW BETTER THAN TO THINK YOU'D KILL ME WITHOUT HEARING ME OUT FIRST!
I KNOW YOU'VE MADE THE GREAT REFUGE A POLICE STATE, BUT THE ROYAL FAMILY WILL OVERLOOK THAT AND BECOME LOYAL SUBJECTS... IF YOU ALLOW US TO RETURN HOME!
OH, REALLY! I'M TO LET MY FIVE DEADLIEST ENEMIES WALK BACK INTO MY REALM AS IF ALL IS FORGIVEN. WHY, I MIGHT ASK, IS COUSIN GORGON SO GENEROUS OF A SUDDEN?
IT'S FOR CRYSTAL, BLAST YOU! SHE'S GOT NO BUSINESS BEING DRAGGED AROUND WITHOUT HOME OR COMPANIONS HER OWN AGE! BESIDES, THERE'S MEDUSA...
MEDUSA?! THEN SHE'S NOT... AH, PASSED AWAY?
HMMM... PERHAPS WE CAN STRIKE A DEAL, COUSIN!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL LET YOU BACK IN ON TWO CONDITIONS--AND LISTEN WELL!
SAY ON!
ONE: YOU BRING BACK MEDUSA. I WANT THE PEOPLE TO KNOW SHE'S SAFE. THAT'S ONE THING THEY HAVE YET TO FORGIVE ME FOR.
AND TWO: I'LL RELEASE THE HOSTAGES, BUT YOUR PARENTS REMAIN UNDER HOUSE ARREST. I CAN ONLY TRUST YOU SO FAR.
FINE, BUT I WANT TO SEE MY PARENTS FIRST.
WHY, BY ALL MEANS, GORGON, NOW THAT WE'RE FRIENDS AGAIN, YOU'LL SHOW HIM DOWN AFTER THE TRUCE ANNOUNCEMENTS ... WON'T YOU, SEEKER?
MAJESTY... I...
THAT'S A GOOD FELLOW! NOW COME... WE'VE A PROCLAMATION TO MAKE!

AS NIGHT FALLS, THE COMMUNICORE SYSTEM OF THE GREAT REFUGE LIGHTS THE PUBLIC CENTERS WHERE CITIZENS... ASSEMBLED AT GUNPOINT... CONGREGRATE FOR THE MOST SURPRISING ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAXIMUS'S REIGN!
GOOD SUBJECTS... THIS IS A MOMENTOUS OCCASION. BESIDE ME YOU SEE MY COUSIN, GORGON, FORMERLY AN EXILE, BUT NOW AN HONORED GUEST IN THE REALM!
FROM THIS DAY FORTH, I DECREE THAT OUR CIVIL INTERNEES ARE PARDONED, SAVE FOR A FEW SECURITY RISKS! ONCE AGAIN THEY SHALL BE PERMITTED TO WALK THE STREETS OF ATTILAN!
MOREOVER, GORGON BRINGS NEWS THAT MY DEAR COUSIN, MEDUSA, MAY INDEED BE AMONG THE LIVING / WHEN HE RETURNS, HE WILL BRING THE ENTIRE ROYAL FAMILY WITH HIM, INCLUDING MY MUCH-MISSED BROTHER BLACK BOLT! ONCE AGAIN WE WILL BECOME A UNITED RACE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ONE OF BLACK BOLT'S FAMILY IS BACK!
IS THIS THE TRUTH...OR SOME MAD POLITICAL HOAX?
MINUTES LATER...
ALL RIGHT, GET IN LINE THERE! THERE WILL BE A HEAD CHECK AT THE STATION UP FRONT, AND YOU'LL BE EXPECTED TO REPORT IN EVERY THREE DAYS!
THIS ISN'T FREEDOM! WE'RE JUST EXCHANGING ONE PRISON FOR ANOTHER!
TRUE...BUT WITH GORGON BACK, AT LEAST THERE'S SOME HOPE!
THAT GESTURE SHOULD HELP QUELL SPARKS OF DISCONTENTMENT IN THE KINGDOM. AND IF ANY OF MY FORMER "GUESTS" GETS OUT OF HAND... A DISAPPEARANCE OR TWO SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THAT!
MAXIMUS ...MY PARENTS! I WANT TO SEE THEM NOW, OR ELSE!
CERTAINLY, GORGON! SEEKER, YOU KNOW THE WAY... I SHOULD HOPE!
YES, MAJESTY! FOLLOW ME, GORGON...!

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CITY

STATE ZIP AGE MAR-90

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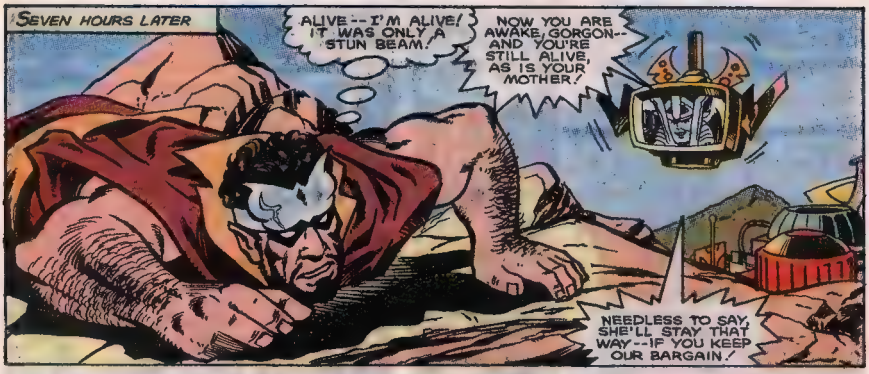
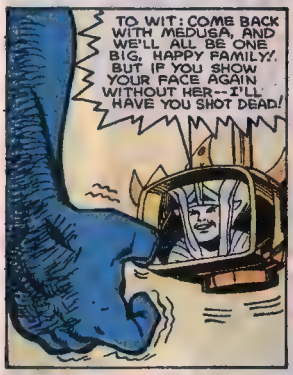
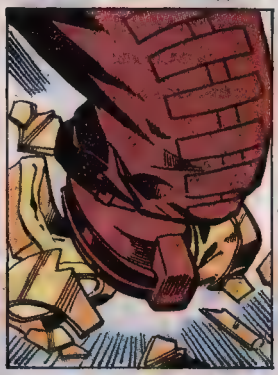
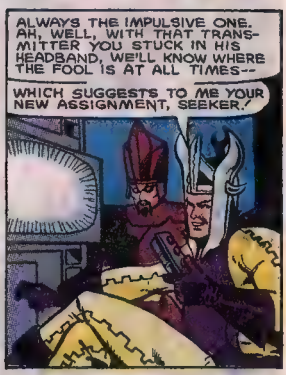
KEEP THOSE HANDS WHERE I CAN SEE THEM, LACKEY! I DON'T TRUST YOU WITH YOUR BACK TO ME...OR, COME TO THINK OF IT, ANY OTHER WAY!
YOUR WISHES ARE IMMATERIAL TO ME! I HAVE MY ORDERS--I CARRY THEM OUT.
YOU ARE JUST ANOTHER IRRITATING JOB TO ME!
MILENA... YOU HAVE A VISITOR!
A VISITOR...? BUT WHO...?
...MOTHER...!
OH, GORGON! OH, GORGON, MY SON--
IT'S FINALLY OVER, MOTHER--YOU'RE GOING FREE! NOW, WHERE ARE THEY KEEPING FATHER THESE DAYS?
OH, SON--YOU DON'T KNOW? THERE WAS A JAILBREAK--YOUR FATHER WAS ONE OF THE LEADERS--
--AND THAT MAN SHOT HIM!
YOU!!
INDEED. ALL IN A DAY'S WORK!


SEVEN HOURS LATER
ALIVE--I'M ALIVE! IT WAS ONLY A STUN BEAM!
NOW YOU ARE AWAKE, GORGON--AND YOU'RE STILL ALIVE, AS IS YOUR MOTHER!
NEEDLESS TO SAY, SHE'LL STAY THAT WAY--IF YOU KEEP OUR BARGAIN!

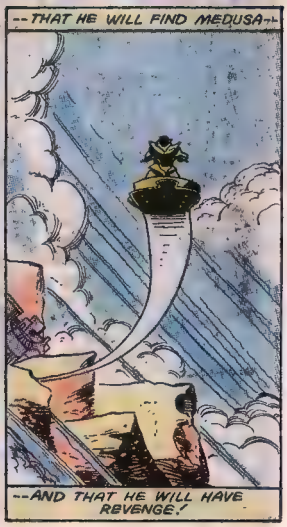

TO WIT: COME BACK WITH MEDUSA, AND WE'LL ALL BE ONE BIG, HAPPY FAMILY! BUT IF YOU SHOW YOUR FACE AGAIN WITHOUT HER--I'LL HAVE YOU SHOT DEAD!




ALWAYS THE IMPULSIVE ONE. AH, WELL, WITH THAT TRANSMITTER YOU STUCK IN HIS HEADBAND, WE'LL KNOW WHERE THE FOOL IS AT ALL TIMES--
WHICH SUGGESTS TO ME YOUR NEW ASSIGNMENT, SEEKER!

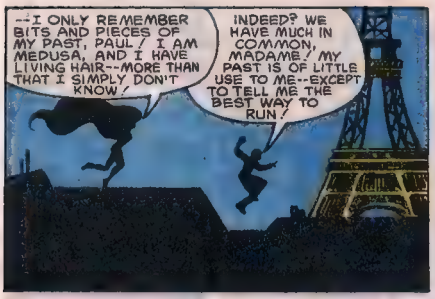
FROM HERE ON IN, YOU'LL KEEP TRACK OF GORGON AND THE REST OF THE CLAN UNTIL MEDUSA IS FOUND--AND THEN BRING THEM ALL BACK HERE IN CHAINS!
I'LL SLEEP BETTER WITH MY BROTHER NEUTRALIZED--AND MUCH BETTER WITH A QUEEN, TO FOUND THE DYNASTY OF MAXIMUS!

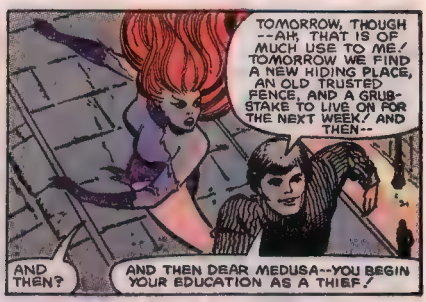
GORGON BEGINS HIS MISSION, KNOWING HE IS BEING USED... BUT HE KNOWS TWO THINGS MORE--

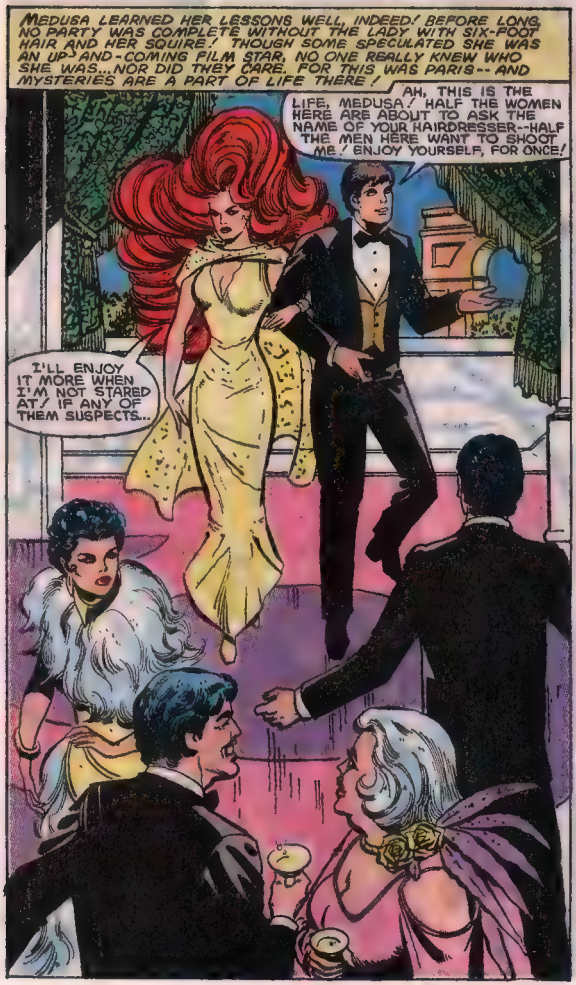

--THAT HE WILL FIND MEDUSA--
--AND THAT HE WILL HAVE REVENGE!

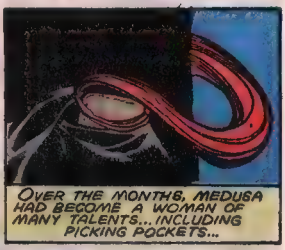
CHAPTER FOUR
MEDUSA'S ODYSSEY
WHILE THE REST OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF ATTILAN ROAMS THE EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE LOOKING FOR HER, MEDUSA HAS SOUGHT SANCTUARY AMONG THE TEEMING MASSES WHO DWELL IN PARIS...
IT'S JUST AS I ALWAYS SUSPECTED... HUMANS ARE MAD! ANYONE DIFFERENT FROM THEM IN THE LEAST WINDS UP IN A JAIL CELL--OR A TOMB!
BUT NOT I--IF CAN REACH THAT OPEN WINDOW UP THERE!
<WHAT IS SHE ANYWAY...SOME KIND OF WITCH OR SOMETHING?>
<ALL I KNOW IS, IF WE DON'T STOP HER FIRST SOMEBODY ELSE'LL GET HIS PICTURE IN THE PAPER!>
<THERE SHE GOES! DON'T LET HER MAKE THE ALLEYWAY!>
E. Smith

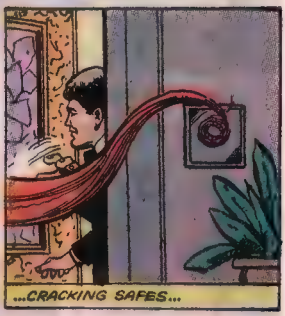
IF ONLY THEY DON'T SEE ME UP HERE. I'LL STAND AND FIGHT IF I MUST--BUT NOT AGAINST A WHOLE CITY!
HOW MUCH EASIER IT WOULD BE IF I COULD CUT MY HAIR, AND LOOK LIKE A HUMAN WOMAN! BUT MY TRESSES FEEL PAIN WHEN THEY'RE CUT, AND THEY GROW BACK ALMOST INSTANTLY!
MON DIEU--!!
I-I MEAN YOU NO HARM, BUT I'M BEING PURSUED!
SO IS PAUL DUMAS, MADEMOISELLE--BUT BY THE GENDARMES, NOT LADY GODIVA!
I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE! JUST PUT DOWN THAT GUN! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF BEING CHASED AND THREATENED!
YOUR HAIR! YOU CAN USE IT LIKE A LIVING WHIP! WHO ARE YOU, WOMAN?
I AM MEDUSA!
WELL, MY DEAR MADAME MEDUSA--I THINK WE MAY BE OF USE TO ONE ANOTHER--IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF REFUGE!
REFUGE--THAT WORD MEANS SOMETHING TO ME, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT! I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE I AM!
NO? AH, CHERIE, THAT A WOMAN SHOULD BE IN THE CITY OF LIGHTS ITSELF AND NOT KNOW ITS NAME! VERY WELL. THEN...YOU ARE IN PARIS!
HOME OF THE EIFFEL TOWER--THE ARC DE TRIUMPH--AND THE WORLD'S GREATEST JEWEL THIEVES! I AM SUCH A JEWEL THIEF! A HARD LIVING--BUT NOT A DULL ONE!
AND YOU WANT MY HELP? WELL, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME BETWEEN MEALS...AND IF THEY'RE GOING TO CHASE ME, I MAY AS WELL GIVE THEM A GOOD REASON FOR IT!
AH, MEDUSA, YOU LEARN QUICKLY! NOW, TO THE ROOFTOPS...I HEAR FOOTSTEPS NEARING MY DOOR!


--I ONLY REMEMBER BITS AND PIECES OF MY PAST, PAUL / I AM MEDUSA, AND I HAVE LIVING HAIR--MORE THAN THAT I SIMPLY DON'T KNOW /
INDEED? WE HAVE MUCH IN COMMON, MADAME / MY PAST IS OF LITTLE USE TO ME--EXCEPT TO TELL ME THE BEST WAY TO RUN /

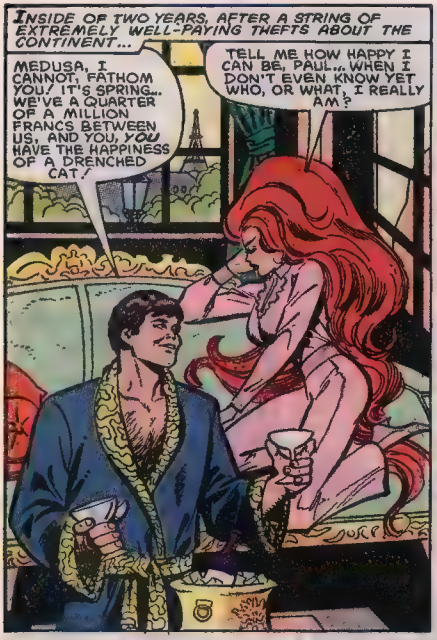

TOMORROW, THOUGH --AH, THAT IS OF MUCH USE TO ME / TOMORROW WE FIND A NEW HIDING PLACE, AN OLD TRUSTED FENCE, AND A GRUB-STAKE TO LIVE ON FOR THE NEXT WEEK / AND THEN--
AND THEN?
AND THEN DEAR MEDUSA--YOU BEGIN YOUR EDUCATION AS A THIEF /


MEDUSA LEARNED HER LESSONS WELL, INDEED / BEFORE LONG NO PARTY WAS COMPLETE WITHOUT THE LADY WITH SIX-FOOT HAIR AND HER SQUIRE / THOUGH SOME SPECULATED SHE WAS AN UP-AND-COMING FILM STAR, NO ONE REALLY KNEW WHO SHE WAS...NOR DID THEY CARE. FOR THIS WAS PARIS-- AND MYSTERIES ARE A PART OF LIFE THERE /
AH, THIS IS THE LIFE, MEDUSA / HALF THE WOMEN HERE ARE ABOUT TO ASK THE NAME OF YOUR HAIRDRESSER--HALF THE MEN HERE WANT TO SHOOT ME / ENJOY YOURSELF, FOR ONCE!
I'LL ENJOY IT MORE WHEN I'M NOT STARED AT / IF ANY OF THEM SUSPECTS...


OVER THE MONTHS, MEDUSA HAD BECOME A WOMAN OF MANY TALENTS...INCLUDING PICKING POCKETS...


...CRACKING SAFES...

AND HEISTING JEWELS FROM LADIES WITH OTHER THINGS ON THEIR MINDS / AND FEW WOULD HAVE STOPPED TO SEARCH HER...PERHAPS WITH A FINE-TOOTHED COMB /


INSIDE OF TWO YEARS, AFTER A STRING OF EXTREMELY WELL-PAYING THEFTS ABOUT THE CONTINENT...
MEDUSA, I CANNOT, FATHOM YOU! IT'S SPRING... WE'VE A QUARTER OF A MILLION FRANCS BETWEEN US, AND YOU, YOU HAVE THE HAPPINESS OF A DRENCHED CAT!
TELL ME HOW HAPPY I CAN BE, PAUL... WHEN I DON'T EVEN KNOW YET WHO, OR WHAT, I REALLY AM?

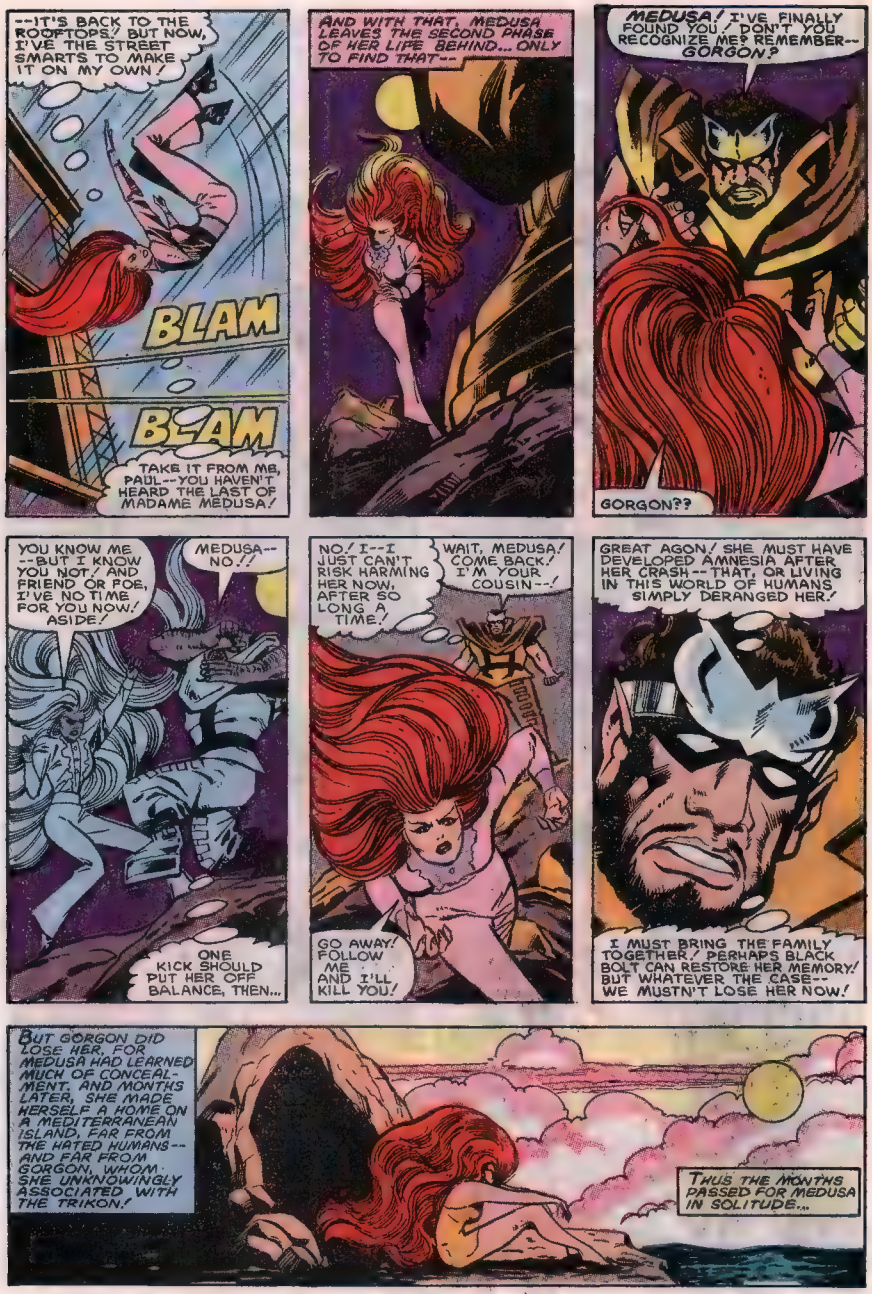
WOMAN, WOMAN... WHEN I MET YOU, YOU WERE IN TATTERS, DESPERATE, HAVING NO PLACE TO TURN, WITH CRETINS SEEKING YOUR VERY LIFE!
THEN I GAVE YOU MY PATRONAGE. I SHOWED YOU LUXURY YOU'D NEVER DREAMED OF... AND IF YOU'D LET YOUR DEFENSES DOWN JUST ONCE I'D TEACH YOU... WELL, OF AN AREA IN WHICH YOUR EDUCATION NEEDS UPDATING, JUST ONCE, MEDUSA...

NO! I--I CAN'T!
MEDUSA...!
PAUL, DON'T ASK ME FOR WHAT I JUST CAN'T GIVE YOU! JUST GIVE ME MY SHARE OR THE TAKE... I'M GETTING OUT!

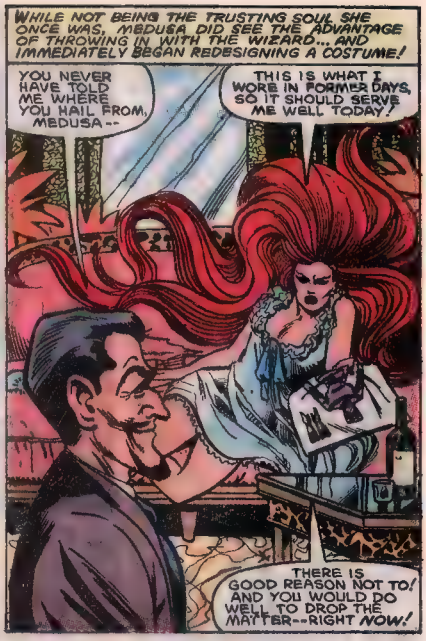
MOMENTS LATER, DOWNSTAIRS...
YES, INSPECTOR, SHE IS HERE--IN THE PENTHOUSE! I SUGGEST--NO, I ADVISE YOU TO COME IN SHOOTING AS THE REPORTS YOU HAVE SEEN DO NO JUSTICE TO HER SAVAGERY WHEN CORNERED!
WHO AM I? WHY, I AM DEGAULLE'S NEPHEW!

PAUL'S BEEN GONE TOO LONG! I DON'T LIKE IT! I DON'T WANT TO RETURN TO THE LIFE OF A PENNILESS FUGITIVE, BUT IF I MUST--
EH? WHAT'S THAT NOISE OUTSIDE?

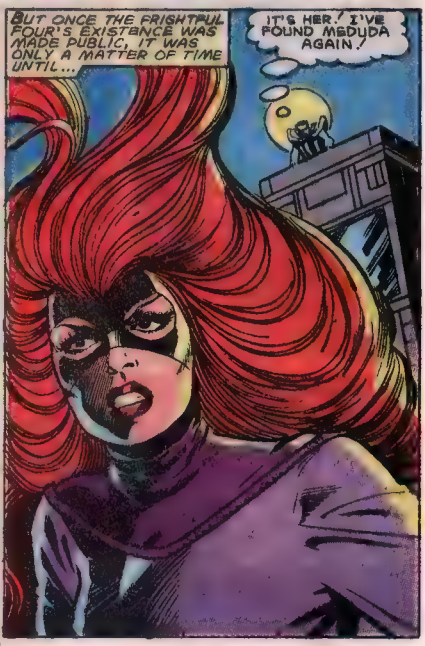
POLICE! PAUL--THE TRAITOROUS RAT! WELL, I GUESS THAT SOLVES MATTERS FOR NOW--
THERE SHE IS! SHOOT TO KILL!
OUI, CAPTAIN!


--IT'S BACK TO THE ROOFTOPS! BUT NOW, I'VE THE STREET SMARTS TO MAKE IT ON MY OWN!
BLAM
BLAM
TAKE IT FROM ME, PAUL--YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE LAST OF MADAME MEDUSA!
AND WITH THAT, MEDUSA LEAVES THE SECOND PHASE OF HER LIFE BEHIND... ONLY TO FIND THAT--
MEDUSA! I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU. DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME? REMEMBER-- GORGON?
GORGON??
YOU KNOW ME --BUT I KNOW YOU NOT! AND FRIEND OR FOE, I'VE NO TIME FOR YOU NOW! ASIDE!
MEDUSA-- NO!!
ONE KICK SHOULD PUT HER OFF BALANCE, THEN...
NO! I--I JUST CAN'T RISK HARMING HER NOW, AFTER SO LONG A TIME!
WAIT, MEDUSA! COME BACK! I'M YOUR COUSIN--!
GO AWAY! FOLLOW ME AND I'LL KILL YOU!
GREAT AGON! SHE MUST HAVE DEVELOPED AMNESIA AFTER HER CRASH--THAT, OR LIVING IN THIS WORLD OF HUMANS SIMPLY DERANGED HER!
I MUST BRING THE FAMILY TOGETHER! PERHAPS BLACK BOLT CAN RESTORE HER MEMORY! BUT WHATEVER THE CASE--WE MUSTN'T LOSE HER NOW!
BUT GORGON DID LOSE HER, FOR MEDUSA HAD LEARNED MUCH OF CONCEALMENT, AND MONTHS LATER, SHE MADE HERSELF A HOME ON A MEDITERRANEAN ISLAND, FAR FROM THE HATED HUMANS--AND FAR FROM GORGON, WHOM SHE UNKNOWINGLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRIKON!
THUS THE MONTHS PASSED FOR MEDUSA IN SOLITUDE...

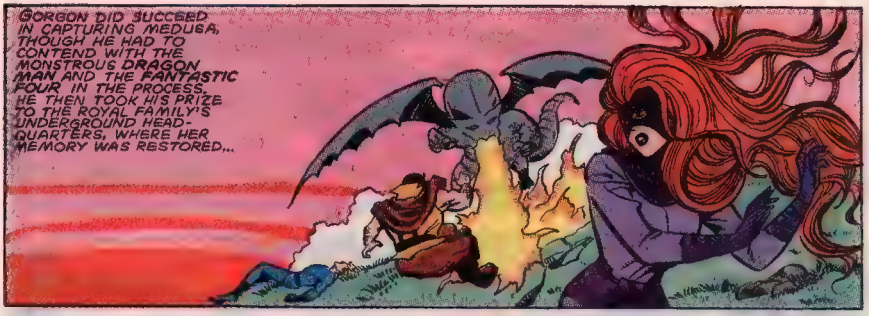
BUT THE SELF-IMPOSED EXILE CAME TO AN END DURING A CHANCE BATTLE AGAINST A POLICE SEARCH PARTY...
MAGNIFICENT! THAT WOMAN MUST BE AN UNDISCOVERED MUTANT! SHE COULD BE OF GREAT USE TO ME-- IF SHE WILL CONSENT TO WORK AT THE BEHEST OF THE WIZARD!
FOOLS! OF WHAT USE ARE YOUR WEAPONS AGAINST THE POWER OF MY INCOMPARABLE HAIR!

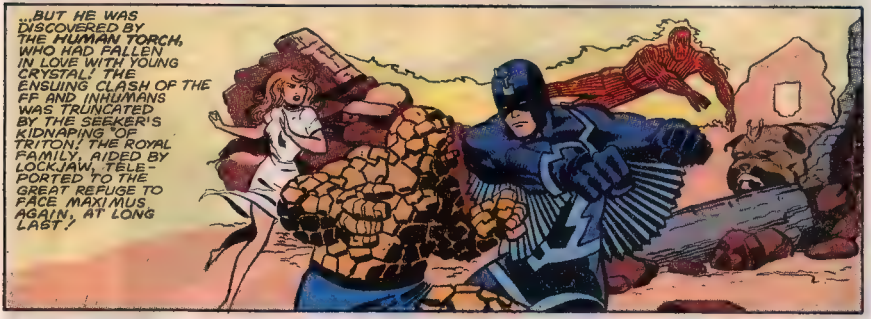

WHILE NOT BEING THE TRUSTING SOUL SHE ONCE WAS, MEDUSA DID SEE THE ADVANTAGE OF THROWING IN WITH THE WIZARD... AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN REDESIGNING A COSTUME!
YOU NEVER HAVE TOLD ME WHERE YOU HAIL FROM, MEDUSA--
THIS IS WHAT I WORE IN FORMER DAYS, SO IT SHOULD SERVE ME WELL TODAY!
THERE IS GOOD REASON NOT TO! AND YOU WOULD DO WELL TO DROP THE MATTER--RIGHT NOW!

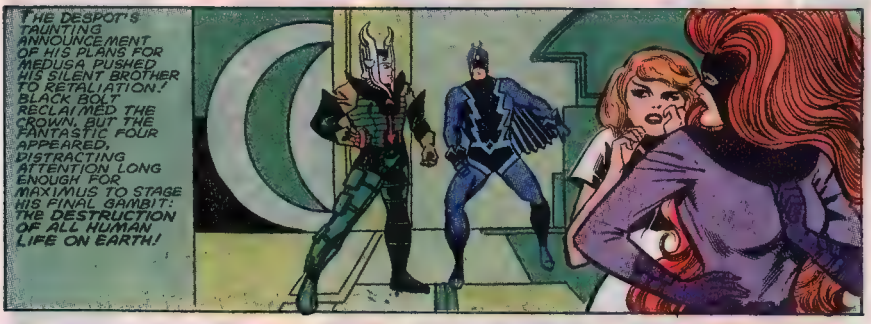
TOGETHER WITH THE SANDMAN AND THE WIZARD'S OLD ALLY, PASTEPOT PETE, MEDUSA POUND HERSELF DRAFTED INTO THE ORIGINAL FRIGHTFUL FOUR--DEADLIEST TEAM OF FOES THE FANTASTIC FOUR HAD EVER FACED! *
* SKEPTICS CAN CHECK THE DETAILS IN FF # 36, 38 AND 41-43.


BUT ONCE THE FRIGHTFUL FOUR'S EXISTENCE WAS MADE PUBLIC, IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL...
IT'S HER! I'VE FOUND MEDUSA AGAIN!

GORGON TO FAMILY/ I HAVE LOCATED HER/ THE REST OF HER COMPANIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY--I INTEND TO ENGAGE AND APPREHEND HER/ HAVE I PERMISSION?
AND, IN A SECRET LAIR BENEATH THE SURFACE OF THE BOWERY...
BLACK BOLT/ GORGON'S LOCATED MY SISTER AGAIN!
I GRANT AUTHORITY ON BEHALF OF BLACK BOLT, GORGON/ SHALL WE CONVERGE?
NO--I MUST HANDLE THIS ALONE/ BUT MY DIRECTIONAL TRANSMITTER WILL REMAIN ACTIVE/ CEASING COMMUNICATION/
THANK AGON/ MEDUSA'S ALIVE/ BUT EVEN IF WE CAPTURE HER, CAN WE RESTORE HER MEMORY? AND CAN WE DISSUADE GORGON FROM RETURNING HER--
--TO MAXIMUS?
INDEED NOT, MY FISH-SCALED FRIEND/ NOW THAT I KNOW THE ROYAL FAMILY IS IN ONE NEAT PACKAGE IN THIS VERY CITY--THE TRAP IS ABOUT TO SPRING SHUT/


GORGON DID SUCCEED IN CAPTURING MEDUSA, THOUGH HE HAD TO CONTEND WITH THE MONSTROUS DRAGON MAN AND THE FANTASTIC FOUR IN THE PROCESS. HE THEN TOOK HIS PRIZE TO THE ROYAL FAMILY'S UNDERGROUND HEADQUARTERS, WHERE HER MEMORY WAS RESTORED...


...BUT HE WAS DISCOVERED BY THE HUMAN TORCH, WHO HAD FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOUNG CRYSTAL! THE ENSUING CLASH OF THE FF AND INHUMANS WAS TRUNCATED BY THE SEEKER'S KIDNAPING OF TRITON! THE ROYAL FAMILY, AIDED BY LOCKJAW, TELEPORTED TO THE GREAT REFUGE TO FACE MAXIMUS AGAIN, AT LONG LAST!


THE DESPOT'S TAUNTING ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS PLANS FOR MEDUSA PUSHED HIS SILENT BROTHER TO RETALIATION! BLACK BOLT RECLAIMED THE CROWN, BUT THE FANTASTIC FOUR APPEARED, DISTRACTING ATTENTION LONG ENOUGH FOR MAXIMUS TO STAGE HIS FINAL GAMBIT: THE DESTRUCTION OF ALL HUMAN LIFE ON EARTH!

THE FAILURE OF MAXIMUS'S ATMO-GUN ESTABLISHED THAT HUMAN AND INHUMAN WERE OF THE SAME BASIC TYPE--NOT NATURAL ENEMIES. WITH HIS PLANS IN RUIN, THE EX-TYRANT OF ATTILAN STRUCK BACK, CHARGING THE LAND AROUND THE GREAT REFUGE WITH AN IMPENETRABLE NEGATIVE BARRIER!*
* THESE SEQUENCES RETOLD FROM THE CLASSIC FANTASTIC FOUR #44-48.

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| **Batman: Movie Cards** 1-2 | $25/ **9.95** |
| (Box of 360 collector cards!) | |
| **Batman: Movie Figure** | $12/ **6.95** |
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AMERICAN ENTERTAINMENT

*Order Information & More on Page 23*

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AND AS THE DOME AROUND THE GREAT REFUGE SEALS...
CHAPTER FIVE
JOHNNY, DON'T GO! I LOVE YOU, JOHNNY!
BACK, CRYSTAL! IN ANOTHER INSTANT, THE ZONE BARRIER WILL CONSUME YOU! YOU WILL BOTH DIE!
CRYSTAL! CRYSTAL!! I--I CAN'T GET THROUGH TO YOU--
LET 'ER GO, KID! IT'S CLOSIN' TIME FOR SHANGRI-LA!
REED, WHAT'S HAPPENING? WILL WE EVER BE ABLE TO BREACH THAT BARRIER?
NOT EVEN THE HULK COULD PENETRATE THAT ENERGY FIELD, SUE! MAXIMUS MAY HAVE ENTRAPPED THE INHUMANS -- FOREVER!

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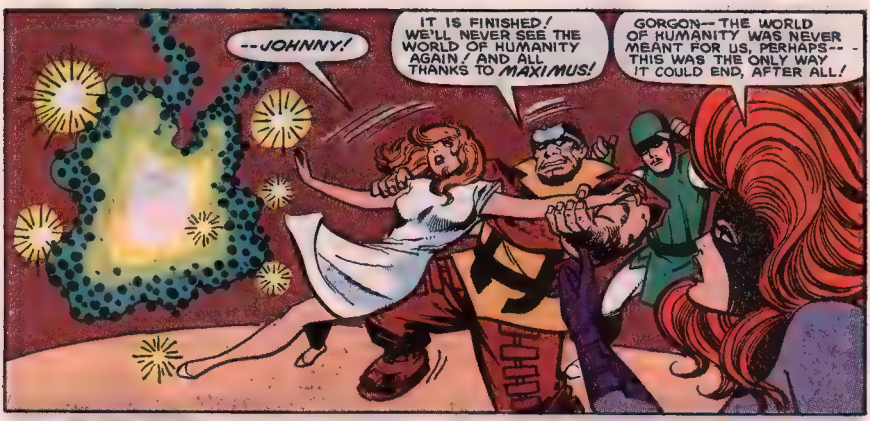
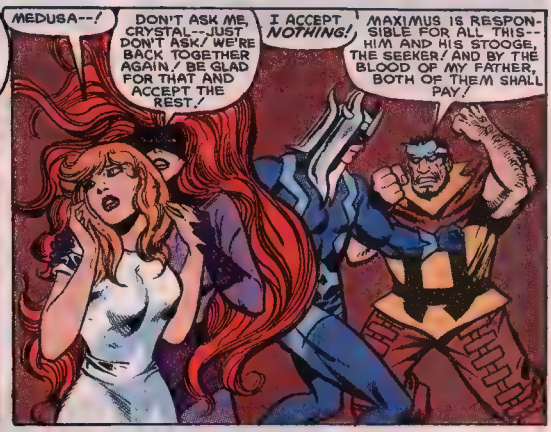

--JOHNNY!
IT IS FINISHED! WE'LL NEVER SEE THE WORLD OF HUMANITY AGAIN! AND ALL THANKS TO MAXIMUS!
GORGON--THE WORLD OF HUMANITY WAS NEVER MEANT FOR US, PERHAPS--THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY IT COULD END, AFTER ALL!

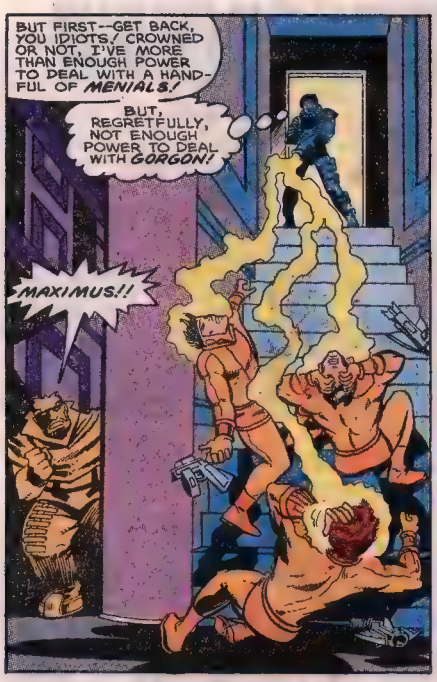
IT WON'T END HERE, CRYSTAL! I'M NOT GIVING YOU UP! WE'LL FIND A WAY BACK IN, SOMEHOW, SOME WAY--
YOU CAN'T HEAR ME--BUT THE HUMAN TORCH WILL BE BACK FOR YOU! I SWEAR IT!

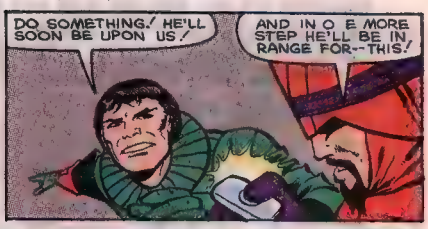

MEDUSA--!
DON'T ASK ME, CRYSTAL--JUST DON'T ASK! WE'RE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN! BE GLAD FOR THAT AND ACCEPT THE REST!
I ACCEPT NOTHING!
MAXIMUS IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS--HIM AND HIS STOOGE, THE SEEKER! AND BY THE BLOOD OF MY FATHER, BOTH OF THEM SHALL PAY!

EXILE AND PAIN, VIOLENCE AND VENGEANCE ...HOW WILL HURTING MAXIMUS HELP ANY OF US NOW?
JUST CRY IT OUT, SISTER.

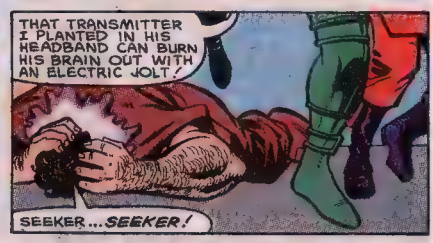
SEEKER! MAXIMUS! YOU'VE NO HOLES TO CRAWL IN ANYMORE--NO GUARDS TO SAVE YOUR MURDERING HIDES!
GORGON IS COMING TO KILL YOU!

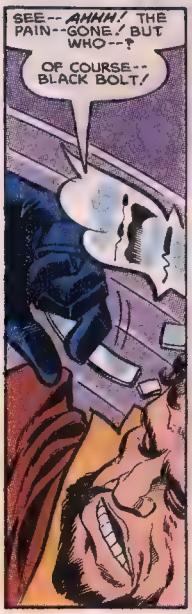
SEEKER! I'VE A SMALL MATTER THAT REQUIRES YOUR ATTENTION--!
YOU FORGET YOURSELF, MY LIEGE--I SERVE YOU ONLY SO LONG AS YOU WEAR YOUR CROWN!
FINE! THEN I'LL BE SURE TO GIVE A GOOD REPORT OF YOUR NEW ALIGNMENT TO GORGON! HE'S RIGHT BEHIND THE GUARDS!
ULK!

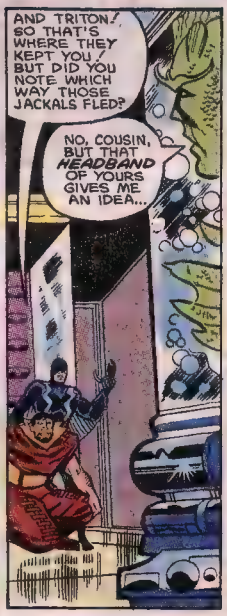

BUT FIRST--GET BACK, YOU IDIOTS! CROWNED OR NOT, I'VE MORE THAN ENOUGH POWER TO DEAL WITH A HANDFUL OF MENIALS!
BUT, REGRETFULLY, NOT ENOUGH POWER TO DEAL WITH GORGON!
MAXIMUS!!


DO SOMETHING! HE'LL SOON BE UPON US!
AND IN O E MORE STEP HE'LL BE IN RANGE FOR--THIS!

AAARGHHH!


THAT TRANSMITTER I PLANTED IN HIS HEADBAND CAN BURN HIS BRAIN OUT WITH AN ELECTRIC JOLT!
SEEKER...SEEKER!


SEE--AHHH! THE PAIN--GONE! BUT WHO--?
OF COURSE--BLACK BOLT!


AND TRITON! SO THAT'S WHERE THEY KEPT YOU! BUT DID YOU NOTE WHICH WAY THOSE JACKALS FLED?
NO, COUSIN, BUT THAT HEADBAND OF YOURS GIVES ME AN IDEA...

THE SEEKER IMPLANTED A TRANSMITTER INSIDE IT. THAT'S HOW HE SHADOWED US SO EASILY IN NEW YORK...BUT THAT TRICK WORKS BOTH WAYS!
OF COURSE! BLACK BOLT CAN SENSE THE ENERGY TRAIL POWERING THE DEVICE! THAT'S ONE MORE THING I HAVE TO LAY AT THEIR ACCOUNT!
AND NOW, IT IS HIGH TIME FOR...A RECKONING!

# BULLPEN BULLETINS

## STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes! Not only does munificent Marvel *wish* you a Happy New Year, but we're doing our best to *make* it happy for you! And what better example can I give than this . . .

Ever since we've been publishing the widely acclaimed MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE, many of you have missed it because you couldn't buy it through normal channels, only in comic book specialty stores. But now, because we can't bear the thought of one True Believer missing a single issue of the only magazine devoted to inside information about Marvel's most exciting projects, plus in-depth previews of all our newest stories, plus columns, interviews, cartoons and illustrations giving you the latest news and gossip about the wacky world of Marvel, as well as behind the scenes glimpses of the artists and writers who have become so much a part of all our lives—and because I've got to end this convoluted sentence somewhere—you'll now be able to buy your batty bullpen's own MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE wherever comics are sold!

No, no! Don't besiege us with grateful letters and phone calls! Save your energy for scanning the television listings to see when NBC's next and greatest HULK TV movie will be broadcast! You can't miss a show titled "The Death of the Hulk," right? Especially since it's not a dream or an imaginary plot! You'll find more info about this senses-shattering event in MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE where I'll devote an entire page to discussing it!

Till then, remember—it's ten o'clock! Do you know where your comic books are?!!

Excelsior!

Stan

**ITEM:** Happy New Year, Faithful Ones! We've been working 'round the clock to come up with more exciting new titles to make 1990 our best year ever. Next month we'll give you the details on our New Titles Contest—a special competition tied to our 1990 premieres! Also, 1990 marks the big fiftieth anniversary of MARVEL COMICS #1 and the red, white, and blue Avenger, *Captain America*! There'll be lots of celebrating, not the least of which will be the release of the live-action Captain America movie from 21st Century Films. So stick around, 1990 won't be any fun without you!

**ITEM:** We're sure you're just as thrilled about the Berlin Wall coming down as we are, that in the interest of world peace we just can't resist telling you that mighty Marvel and our good pals at DC Comics have gotten together on a special project that's not only tons of fun, but educational, too. It's called *Super Heroes: A High Tech Adventure!* It's a traveling exhibit featuring Marvel and DC super heroes explaining contemporary physics to children. It's already too late to catch the show in Portland, Oregon and Los Angeles, California, but if you're lucky you can see the exhibit at the Detroit Science Center, Detroit, Michigan, February through April; the Museum of Science and Industry, Tampa, Florida, June through August; the Indianapolis Children's Museum, Indianapolis, Indianna, October through December; the Cumberland Science Center, Nashville, Tennessee, February through April 1991; Discovery Place, Charlotte, North Carolina, June through August 1991; The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October through December 1991; the Museum of History and Science, Louisville, Kentucky, June through August 1992; Fort Worth Museum of History and Science, Fort Worth, Texas, October through December 1992. We'll let you know when additional dates are announced, right here in your friendly, neighborhood Bullpen page. (Who says we never give you enough warning?) We think it's a great show, fun for the whole family, and it proves that in this crazy, mixed-up world of ours, two mighty super powers can work together for the good of mankind.

**ITEM:** A few months back we had our annual wild and crazy Halloween party, and it was a blast! *Mark Gruenwald*, our wild and crazy Executive Editor, organized all sorts of wild and crazy party activities, mainly a series of wild and crazy contests between our production personnel and our editorial crew. The powerhouse Production team pummeled the pathetic pencil-pushers from Editorial. For all the gory details check out the latest issue of MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE. We'd rather not relive the agony of our defeat just now, if you don't mind.

**ITEM:** Let's hear it for Soft-spoken *Scott Lobdell*, one of our new shining stars who has scripted many a tale in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. Not only is Scott struggling to make a name for himself in comics, but he's also a struggling comic. That's the stand-up kind. A comedian. Well, anyway, after the tragic San Francisco earthquake last year, Scott organized a fund-raising effort by getting a bunch of comedy clubs to band together to hold Quake-Aid nights which would turn over all proceeds to the American Red Cross to help the earthquake victims. We hear it was a big success, and we're proud of you, Scott. No kidding.

**ITEM:** Last, and certainly not least, we're proud to report that on a recent MTV special, "Rating the Eighties," the UNCANNY X-MEN won the award for coolest comic of the decade! Congratulations, *Chris Claremont*! We're positive the next ten years aren't going to be anything to sneeze at either, as far as our merry mutants are concerned! By the way, we think MTV was the coolest music video station of the eighties, just in case anyone was wondering. Thanks, again, MTV!

## PRO FILE: DANNY FINGEROTH

**Editor on:** MOON KNIGHT, CLOAK AND DAGGER, ALPHA FLIGHT, and NEW WARRIORS.

**Marvel freelance credits (past):** Writer on WEB OF SPIDER-MAN, PSI-FORCE, and more issues of DAZZLER than any human being on the face of the planet.

**Marvel Freelance credits (present):** Writer on FANTASTIC FOUR GRAPHIC NOVEL ("Fathers and Sons"), AVENGERS GRAPHIC NOVEL ("Deathtrap: the Vault"), the legendary "Deadly Foes of Spider-Man" serial in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, a host of WHAT IF. . .?s, Gilgamesh (in AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT), and an upcoming new series I'm not allowed to mention.

**My hobbies are:** Jogging, reading, listening to talk radio.

**The single work of which I am most proud is:** *The Thing* solo story ("The Day After") in MARVEL FANFARE #46.

**My pet peeves are:** Too endless to even begin to list.

**My place of birth is:** New York, N.Y.

**My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is:** Having a New York showing of some films I'd made.

**My oddest habit is:** Odder than some people's, not as odd as others!

**If they were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by:** Sean Connery. (Hey, the word "appropriate" doesn't appear in the question!)

**The reason I got into comics was:** Steinbrenner couldn't match Marvel's offer.

**People who knew me in high school thought I was:** Actually gonna be a professional writer.

**My favorite performers are:** Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, Marlon Brando, and David Letterman.

**The last good book I read was:** *New York Son*, stories by Mike Feder.

**The last good movie I saw was:** *Warlock*, a 50s "psychological western" starring Henry Fonda.

**The biggest influences on my work include:** My family and my friends, of course. Plus: Stan Lee, Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko, Orson Welles, Jim Shooter, Larry Lieber, Harvey Pekar (who'd probably be distressed to find himself on this list), the SUNY Binghamton Cinema Department, Hank ("Mr.") Levy, Mickey Mantle, Tom DeFalco, and Louise Jones.

**My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is:** To be the regular writer on the FANTASTIC FOUR, Ralph.

**The worst part of my job is:** Telling people bad news.

**When nobody's looking I like to:** Pretend I'm Mick Jagger. Or Daryl Edelman.

**The one thing I really want the world to know about me is:** I'm one of the country's top ten parallel parkers. (No relation to Rick or Peter!)

AND ONLY MOMENTS LATER...
SO THE TRAIL LEADS HERE... TO THE DUNGEON OF MY PARENTS! IF I HAD A SENSE OF IRONY I'D PROBABLY APPRECIATE IT... BUT WHAT DOES MY TYPE KNOW OF IRONY?
THERE IS LITTLE YOUR "TYPE" KNOWS OF ANY-THING, YOU FOOL...
YOU!
...AND ONE OF THE THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT IS MY POWER!
MY LIMITED, BUT VERY EFFECTIVE, POWER OF MIND CONTROL!
THIS IS NO WAY TO FINISH IT, MAXIMUS! LET ME GO AHEAD AND KILL THEM!
I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WERE, MAGGOT!
BUT IF YOU THINK I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO DRAW A BEAD ON ME... FORGET IT!
UGH!
AND NOW, AS I WAS SAYING... UNGHHH!
THIS IS MY FINAL TRUMP, DEAR COUSIN. MY POWER HAS WANED OVER THE YEARS ...BUT IT IS STILL ENOUGH TO CONTROL A SIMILAR BRAIN... SUCH AS MY OWN BROTHER'S.
YOU SPOKE OF IRONY BEFORE, GORGON. WELL, HERE'S A GEN-EROUS DOSE OF IT FOR YOU-- YOUR DEATH AT THE RELENTLESS HANDS OF BLACK BOLT!
N-NO-- NO!

# EAST COAST COMICS

**P.O. BOX 4111, TRENTON, NJ 08610** — **ALL COMICS MINT/NM** — **C.O.D.**

**ALLADIN EFFECT**
Gr. Novel (Reg. 6.95) Sale 5.20.

**AMAZING SPIDERMAN**
298, 520, 298, 314, 300, $10; 299, 301, 99, 252, 265, 377, 239, 96, 289, 302-306 $5, 284, (293, 294, Kraven) 307-313, $4, 200, 249-251, 275, 83, 286-288, $2.50 203-237, 240-248, 314-319, 32, 253-274, 276-283, 290-292, 295-297, 320-324, $1.50, 325-332, $1; Hooky Graphic Novel (1st print) $6; (Later print) $6; Parallel Lives Gr. Novel (1st print) $8; Kraven Saga HC (Reg $19.95) Sale $14.95; Alien Costume Trade P/B (Reg. $9.95) Sale $7.45;

**AVENGERS**
(184-186, Byrne) $4; 141-163, (181-191, Byrne) $3; 167-180, $2.50; 192-200 (Jack C. Factor) $2; 201-226, 250, 261, 265-267, $1.50; 251-259 262, 272, 296, 299, $1.25, 264, 268-271, 273-275, 277-316, $1; Annuals 10, 17, $3; 11-14, 16, 18, $2; Hawkeye, Trade P/B & Emperor Doom, Gr. Novel, each (Reg. $7.95) Sale $6.95; Heroes 1-7, $3. Chronicles (1982) $1.50, Master Works, (Vol. 1) contains 1-10 (Vol. 9, Contains 11-20) (Reg. $29.95) Sale $22.45;

**AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT**
5, $2; 2-30, $1;

**AVENGERS WEST COAST**
1, $5; 2-10, $2; 11-20, 42, $1; 21-41, 43-52, $1; Annuals 2-4, $2, (1984 Lad. Series) 1, $5; 2-4, $4; Complete Set 1-4, $15.50;

**BATMAN**
404, $12; 405-407-$9; (408, Joker) $15; 409, 420, $2; 380, 402, 409, 414-416, 421-425, $3; 426, $45, 427, 428, $35, 429, $15; 430, $8; 433, 436, $6; 431, 432, 434, 435, 437, $4; 438, 439, $2; 440-442, $3; 443-446, 70¢; Annual 13, $3, (Parody) Batfist, the Dark Gnat Returns 1, $2; Pork Knight, This Little Piggy 1, $1.75; United Legends of Batman 1, (1980) $4, Heroes against Hunger 1, (1986) Batman & Superman $2, Gotham by Gaslight, (Prestige 1 shot) $4; Death in the Family, Trade P/B (1st) (Contains 426-429) $7.50, Son of the Demon, Gr. Novel (1st) $15; (Current) $7.50, Dark Knight, Trade P/B, (Reg $12.95) Sale $9.70; Year Two, Trade P/B (Contains Detective 575-578) (1st) $10, Killing Joke (8th) (Reg. $3.50) Sale, $2.80; Greatest Batman Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg. $15.95) Sale $13.95, Greatest Joker Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg $14.95) Sale $12.95, Arkham Asylum, HC (1st) $25, Digital Justice, HC (Computer produced) (1st) $25; Movie Adaption, Prestige Format, (1st) $8, Standard Format (1st) $4,

**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA**
1-10, 75¢;

**BLACK ORCHID**
1-3, $4; Complete Set 1-3, $11;

**BLUE BEETLE**
1, $1.25, 2-7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 21-24, 60¢;

**BORIS THE BEAR**
1, (1st) $3, $3, 3-8, $1.50; 9-22, (Reg. $1.50-$1.95) Sale $1.25;

**BOZZ CHRONICLES (Epic)**
1-6, (Reg. 1.50) Sale 60¢;

**CAPT. AMERICA**
300, $2, 335-337, $1.50; 260, 262, 263, 272, 274, 278, 286, 291, 292, 299, 301, 309, 314, 318-320, 322, 324, 326, 328-331, 338-349, Annual 7, $1, 351-371, 70¢;

**CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Pennwell)**
1, $2; 2-14, (Reg $1.70-$2.00) Sale $1,

**CAVEMAN**
1, $20; 2, $15; 3, 4, $8; Complete Set, 1-4, $49;

**CLASSIC X-MEN**
1, $1.50; 2-12, 11-20, $1.50; 21-46, $1.25,

**COYOTE (Epic)**
1, $1.50; 2-13, 15, 16, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 60¢,

**CRISIS**
1, 2, 7, 12, $2.50; 3-6, 8-11, $2. Complete Set 1-12, $22;

**CRITTERS**
2, 3, 11, 23, $3; 4-10, $1.50; 12-22, 24-30, (Reg. $2) Sale $1;

**CROSSFIRE (Eclipse)**
1, $1, 2-18, (Reg. $1.50-$2); Sale 60¢,

**DARKLY (Eclipse)**
(182-184, Punisher) 227, $6, 178-180, $3; 181, $4; 185-195, 197-222, 225-227, 253-260, $1.50, 228-230, $2.50, 231-234, $2, 235-237, 239-247, 250, 251, 261, 263, 264, 262-270, $1, 271-278, 70¢, Annual 4, $2, Chronicles (1982) $1.50, Love & War, Gr. Novel, (Reg. $7.95) Sale $5.95; Index 9-B, (Reg. $5.95) Sale $4.45,

**AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT**
5, $2; 2-30, $1;

**AVENGERS WEST COAST**
1, $5; 2-10, $2; 11-20, 42, $1; 21-41, 43-52, $1; Annuals 2-4, $2, (1984 Lad. Series) 1, $5; 2-4, $4; Complete Set 1-4, $15.50;

**BATMAN**
404, $12; 405-407-$9; (408, Joker) $15; 409, 420, $2; 380, 402, 409, 414-416, 421-425, $3; 426, $45, 427, 428, $35, 429, $15; 430, $8; 433, 436, $6; 431, 432, 434, 435, 437, $4; 438, 439, $2; 440-442, $3; 443-446, 70¢; Annual 13, $3, (Parody) Batfist, the Dark Gnat Returns 1, $2; Pork Knight, This Little Piggy 1, $1.75; United Legends of Batman 1, (1980) $4, Heroes against Hunger 1, (1986) Batman & Superman $2, Gotham by Gaslight, (Prestige 1 shot) $4; Death in the Family, Trade P/B (1st) (Contains 426-429) $7.50, Son of the Demon, Gr. Novel (1st) $15; (Current) $7.50, Dark Knight, Trade P/B, (Reg $12.95) Sale $9.70; Year Two, Trade P/B (Contains Detective 575-578) (1st) $10, Killing Joke (8th) (Reg. $3.50) Sale, $2.80; Greatest Batman Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg. $15.95) Sale $13.95, Greatest Joker Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg $14.95) Sale $12.95, Arkham Asylum, HC (1st) $25, Digital Justice, HC (Computer produced) (1st) $25; Movie Adaption, Prestige Format, (1st) $8, Standard Format (1st) $4,

**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA**
1-10, 75¢;

**BLACK ORCHID**
1-3, $4; Complete Set 1-3, $11;

**BLUE BEETLE**
1, $1.25, 2-7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 21-24, 60¢;

**BORIS THE BEAR**
1, (1st) $3, $3, 3-8, $1.50; 9-22, (Reg. $1.50-$1.95) Sale $1.25;

**BOZZ CHRONICLES (Epic)**
1-6, (Reg. 1.50) Sale 60¢;

**CAPT. AMERICA**
300, $2, 335-337, $1.50; 260, 262, 263, 272, 274, 278, 286, 291, 292, 299, 301, 309, 314, 318-320, 322, 324, 326, 328-331, 338-349, Annual 7, $1, 351-371, 70¢;

**CASES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (Pennwell)**
1, $2; 2-14, (Reg $1.70-$2.00) Sale $1,

**CAVEMAN**
1, $20; 2, $15; 3, 4, $8; Complete Set, 1-4, $49;

**CLASSIC X-MEN**
1, $1.50; 2-12, 11-20, $1.50; 21-46, $1.25,

**COYOTE (Epic)**
1, $1.50; 2-13, 15, 16, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 60¢,

**CRISIS**
1, 2, 7, 12, $2.50; 3-6, 8-11, $2. Complete Set 1-12, $22;

**CRITTERS**
2, 3, 11, 23, $3; 4-10, $1.50; 12-22, 24-30, (Reg. $2) Sale $1;

**CROSSFIRE (Eclipse)**
1, $1, 2-18, (Reg. $1.50-$2); Sale 60¢,

**CRISIS**
1, 2, 7, 12, $2.50; 3-6, 8-11, $2. Complete Set 1-12, $22;

**DARKLY (Eclipse)**
(182-184, Punisher) 227, $6, 178-180, $3; 181, $4; 185-195, 197-222, 225-227, 253-260, $1.50, 228-230, $2.50, 231-234, $2, 235-237, 239-247, 250, 251, 261, 263, 264, 262-270, $1, 271-278, 70¢, Annual 4, $2, Chronicles (1982) $1.50, Love & War, Gr. Novel, (Reg. $7.95) Sale $5.95; Index 9-B, (Reg. $5.95) Sale $4.45,

**AVENGERS SPOTLIGHT**
5, $2; 2-30, $1;

**AVENGERS WEST COAST**
1, $5; 2-10, $2; 11-20, 42, $1; 21-41, 43-52, $1; Annuals 2-4, $2, (1984 Lad. Series) 1, $5; 2-4, $4; Complete Set 1-4, $15.50;

**BATMAN**
404, $12; 405-407-$9; (408, Joker) $15; 409, 420, $2; 380, 402, 409, 414-416, 421-425, $3; 426, $45, 427, 428, $35, 429, $15; 430, $8; 433, 436, $6; 431, 432, 434, 435, 437, $4; 438, 439, $2; 440-442, $3; 443-446, 70¢; Annual 13, $3, (Parody) Batfist, the Dark Gnat Returns 1, $2; Pork Knight, This Little Piggy 1, $1.75; United Legends of Batman 1, (1980) $4, Heroes against Hunger 1, (1986) Batman & Superman $2, Gotham by Gaslight, (Prestige 1 shot) $4; Death in the Family, Trade P/B (1st) (Contains 426-429) $7.50, Son of the Demon, Gr. Novel (1st) $15; (Current) $7.50, Dark Knight, Trade P/B, (Reg $12.95) Sale $9.70; Year Two, Trade P/B (Contains Detective 575-578) (1st) $10, Killing Joke (8th) (Reg. $3.50) Sale, $2.80; Greatest Batman Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg. $15.95) Sale $13.95, Greatest Joker Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B, (1st) (Reg $14.95) Sale $12.95, Arkham Asylum, HC (1st) $25, Digital Justice, HC (Computer produced) (1st) $25; Movie Adaption, Prestige Format, (1st) $8, Standard Format (1st) $4,

**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA**
1-10, 75¢;

**BLACK ORCHID**
1-3, $4; Complete Set 1-3, $11;

**BLUE BEETLE**
1, $1.25, 2-7, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 21-24, 60¢;

**BORIS THE BEAR**
1, (1st) $3, $3, 3-8, $1.50; 9-22, (Reg. $1.50-$1.95) Sale $1.25;

**BOZZ CHRONICLES (Epic)**
1-6, (Reg. 1.50) Sale 60¢;

**CAPT. AMERICA**
300, $2, 335-337, $1.50; 260, 262, 263, 272, 274, 278, 286, 291, 292, 299, 301, 309, 314, 318-320, 322, 324, 326, 328-331, 338-349, Annual 7, $1, 351-371, 70¢;

Trade P/B (1st) $13; Green Lantern, Green Arrow, (Neal Adams) 1-7, $2.50, Complete Set 1-7, $15;

**GRIM JACK**
1, $1.75; 2, 3, 5-9, 11-25, 27-35, 37, 39, 43, (Reg. $1-$1.75) Sale 50¢;

**GRIMJACK**
1, $25; 2, $15; 3, $12; 4-7, $8; 8-20, 26, 34, 21-28, 30, 50, $3, 31-49, 52-61, $1; Starslayer 5, (2nd Groo) $6; Chronicles 1-6, (Contain Pacific's Groo) $3.50, Death of Groo, Gr. Novel, (Reg. $7.95) Sale $5.95;

**HULK**
332, 334, $4, 300, 314, 341, 347, $3, 238, 239, 242, 244, 245, 305, 307-312, 315-323, 326 $1, 353-369, 70¢, Marvel Master Works, Vol. 8, (Contains 1-6) (Reg. $24.95) Sale $18.70;

**INFINITY INC.**
1, $2, (15-41, McFarlane) $1.50; 2-13, 42-49, 51, 52, (Reg. $1.25-.75) Sale $1; 50, Annuals 1, 2, $2.50;

**INVADERS**
(Marvel, 1975) 1, $4; 2, $2; 3-5, $1.50; 6-41, 60¢; Annual 1, $1.50;

**IRON MAN**
244, 47, 152-168, 173-181, 183-191, 194-196, 198, 250, $1.50, 202-224, 227, $1.25; 228-231, 234-243, 17, 245-249, 251-255, 70¢; Annuals 8, 10, $2, Power of Iron Man, Trade P/B, (Reg. $8.95) Sale $6.70; Crash, Graphic Novel, (1st Print) $13; (Current $9.70;

**JUSTICE LEAGUE AMERICA**
1, $15; 2, $10, 3, 4, $5, 6-10, 24, $2.50, 11-15, $1.50, 16-23, 25-27, (Reg. $1.25) Sale $1, Annual 2, Joker) $4, Annual 3, & Spec 1, $2, Trade P/B, (Contains 1-7) (Reg. $12.95) Sale $9.70, Weird, The 1, 3, $1.50;

**JUSTICE LEAGUE EUROPE**
1, $2.50, 2, $1.50, 3-13, 70¢;

**KITTY & WOLVERINE**
1-5, $4; 6-11, 1-5, $1.75;

**LEGENDS**
1-5, $1.75 (6, 1st new JLA) $5; Complete Set 1-6, $12;

**LEGENDS OF THE DARK KNIGHT**
1, $2, 2-6, $1.50; (Limit, 2 per issue)

**MAN OF STEEL**
1-6, $1.50, (Complete Set 1-6) $8, Trade P/B, (Contains 1-6) (Reg. $12.95) Sale $9.70;

**MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS**
(1-10, Wolverine Stories) $2; Set 1-10, $18; 11-17, 38-49, $1.25; 18-37, (Reg. $1.25) Sale $1;

**MARVEL SPOTLIGHT**
(Deluxe) 1-5, $3, 7-10, $2.50; 11-20, 25, 75; Update 1, 2, $2.50, 3-5, $1.50, (Spec Series) 1, $5, 2-4, 6, $3, 8-15, $2, Trade P/B, 1-10, each (Reg. $7.95) Sale $6.95;

**MEPHISTO**
1-4, $2; Complete Set 1-4, $7;

**MILLENNIUM**
1-8, 45¢; (Complete Set 1-8, $3

**NAM**
1, (1st) $12, 2, $6; 3, $4, 4, $2.50, 5-7, $1.50; 8-10, $1; 11-19, 40¢; 20-25, 90¢, 26-40, $1.50, Trade P/B, (Contains 1-4) (Reg. $6.95) Sale $5.20, (Savage Tales, 1985) 1st Nam Stories, #'s 1&4, $6;

**NAM (Limited Series)**
(Mini-Series 1984) 1-4, (Reg. $1.25) Sale 50¢ (Mini Series 1986) 1-4, (Reg. $2) Sale 80¢;

**NEW MUTANTS**
1, $6, 2-18, $2.50, 60, 73, $2, 19-59, 61, 71, 72, $1.50, 62-70, $1.25, 74-99, $1, 81-88, 70¢, Annuals 1-3, 5, $2; 4, $3; Spec. Ed. 1, $4;

**NTH MAN**
1, $1.50; 2-11, $1;

**POWER PACK**
1, $6, (19, Wolverine) $5; (46, Punisher) $3, (12, X-Men) $1.75; 3-9, 11, 16, 18, 24, 42-44, $1.50, 9, 10, 13-15, 17, 20-23, 25, 26, 28-32, 34-41, 45, 47-49, 51, $1.25, Trade P/B (Contains 1-4) Reg. ($7.95) Sale $5.95, New Gr.Novel, Power Pack & Cloak & Dagger (Reg. $7.95) Sale $5.95;

**PUNISHER**
1, Annual 1, $10, 9-10, $6; 11-14, $4, 15-20, An. 2, $3; 21-25, $2, 26-28, $1.25, 29-33, 70¢, Limited Series 1, $1.50, 2, $1; Punisher Parker, 81, 82, $7; In Strange Tales, 12-14, $2, In Marvel Tales, 211, 213-216, 218, 220, 221, $2, (Classic, Origin) $5, Ass's Guild, Gr. Novel (Reg $7.95) Sale $5.95, Circle of Blood, Trade P/B, (1st) (Contains 1-5 1-5) $9, H.C. Gr. Novel (Reg. $19.95) Nothing, (1st) $17; (2nd) $12 70, H.C. Gr. Novel, Intruder, (1st) $15;

**PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL**
1, $1.50; 2-5, $5; 6-10, $2, 11-17, $1.50; African Saga (1st) (Contains #'s 6,7,) (Reg $5.95) Sale $4.75;

**QUASAR**
1, $1.50, 2-10, $1,

**ROBOTECH**
Macross, (1-5, $15; 2, $6, 3-10, $2, 11-31, $1.50 Masters, 1, $3, 2-23, $1.50; New Generation, 1, $3, 2-25, $1.50, In 3-D, 1, $2.50, Special 1, $2.50, Gr. Novel 1, (Reg. $9.95) Sale $8.45, Art 2, (Reg. $12.95) Sale $9.70;

**SCOUT (Eclipse)**
5-15, 17, 19, 20, War Shaman 1, (Guide $2) Sale 75¢,

**SECRET WARS**
1, $4, 2, $3, 3-12, $1.50, Complete Set 1-9, $11;

**SECRET WARS II**
1, 2, 2-9, $1.50; Complete Set 1-9, $11;

**SHADOWMASTERS**
1-5, $4; Complete Set 1-4, $14

**SHATTER (First)**
(1st Computer Created Comic) 1, $1.50; 2-14, (Reg. $1.75) Sale $1;

**SHIELD**
1, $2, 2-11, $1.50; Nick Fury Vs. Shield, Trade P/B, (Contains L.S. 1-6) (Reg. $15.95) Sale $11.95;

**SILVER SURFER**
1, $5; 2-5, 15, $2, 6-10, 25, 31, $1.50; 11-14, $1.25, 16-24, 26-30, $1; 32-37, 70¢, Annuals 1, 2, $2; (Byrne 1982 1 shot) $5;

**SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN**
1, $10 (81 82 Punisher) $7; 2-5 (131, 132, Kraven) $4, 6-10, (Punisher) $3, 11-26, (1984 Punisher) 156, $3, 29-60, 159, 160 $2, 71, 72, 74, 78-80, 86, 88, 90-92, 100, 107, 108, 110, 31 50, 94-99, 101-106, 111-130, 133-139, 144-150, $1; 151-157, 161-163, 70¢, Annuals 1, 2, $1.50, 8, 9, $2;

**SPEEDBALL**
1-10, 75¢; Complete Set 1-10, $6.90;

**SPIRIT, THE (Kitchen)**
(1983) 1-6, 8, 10, 11, $3, 12-29, 31, 32, 34-45, 47, 48, 50, $2, 30 Classics 1, $2 50,

**STARSLAYER**
1, $2, 2, $5, 4, 7, $1; 8-14, 19-25, 27-34, (Guide $1) Sale 50¢,

**STARSTRUCK (Epic)**
1-6, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 60¢,

**STEELGRIP STARKEY (Epic)**
1-6, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 60¢,

**STORM (First)**
1, $6, 2-18, $2.50, 60, 73, $2, 19-59, 61, 71, 72, $1.50, 62-70, $1.25, 74-99, $1, 81-88, 70¢, Annuals 1-3, 5, $2; 4, $3; Spec. Ed. 1, $4;

**SUPERMAN**
1, $2; (9, Joker) $4, 2-8, 10,

$1.25, 11-30, $1, 31-41, 70¢, Annuals 1, 2, $1.50, Earth Stealers, (Reg. $2.95) Sale $1.95, Greatest Superman Stories Ever Told, Trade P/B (Reg. $15.95) Sale $11.95, Superman Movie IV, $2; Man of Rust 1A & 1B, ea. $1.50, World of Krypton 1-4, $1, World of Smallville 1-4, $1;

**SUPERMAN FAMILY**
(All Giants) 183, 185-190, 197, 198, 202, $1,

**SWORD OF SOLOMON KANE**
(Ltd Series) 1, $1.25, 2-6, 75¢, Complete Set 1-6, $4.50

**THOR**
338-345, 353, 358-365, 367-371, 382, 386, 392-394, 401-416, 70¢, Annual 14, $2;

**TIMESPIRITS (Epic)**
1-5, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 50¢;

**TRANSFORMERS**
1, $7; 2, 3, $6, 4, $2, 5-12, 50, $1.50, 26-42, 70¢, 13-25, 43-65, 80¢, Headmasters 1-4, $2, Set 1-4, $7; Vs. G I Joe 1-4, 40¢, In 3-D, 1-3, $2, Micro Digests 1, 3, 4, 6, (Reg. $1.50) Sale 75¢; Universe Trade P/B, (Reg. $5.95) Sale $4.45,

**VOID INDIGO (Epic)**
Set 1, 2, (Reg. $5) Sale $1;

**WAR, THE**
Prestige Ltd. Series) 1-4, $3 50, Complete Set 1-4, $13;

**WEB OF SPIDER-MAN**
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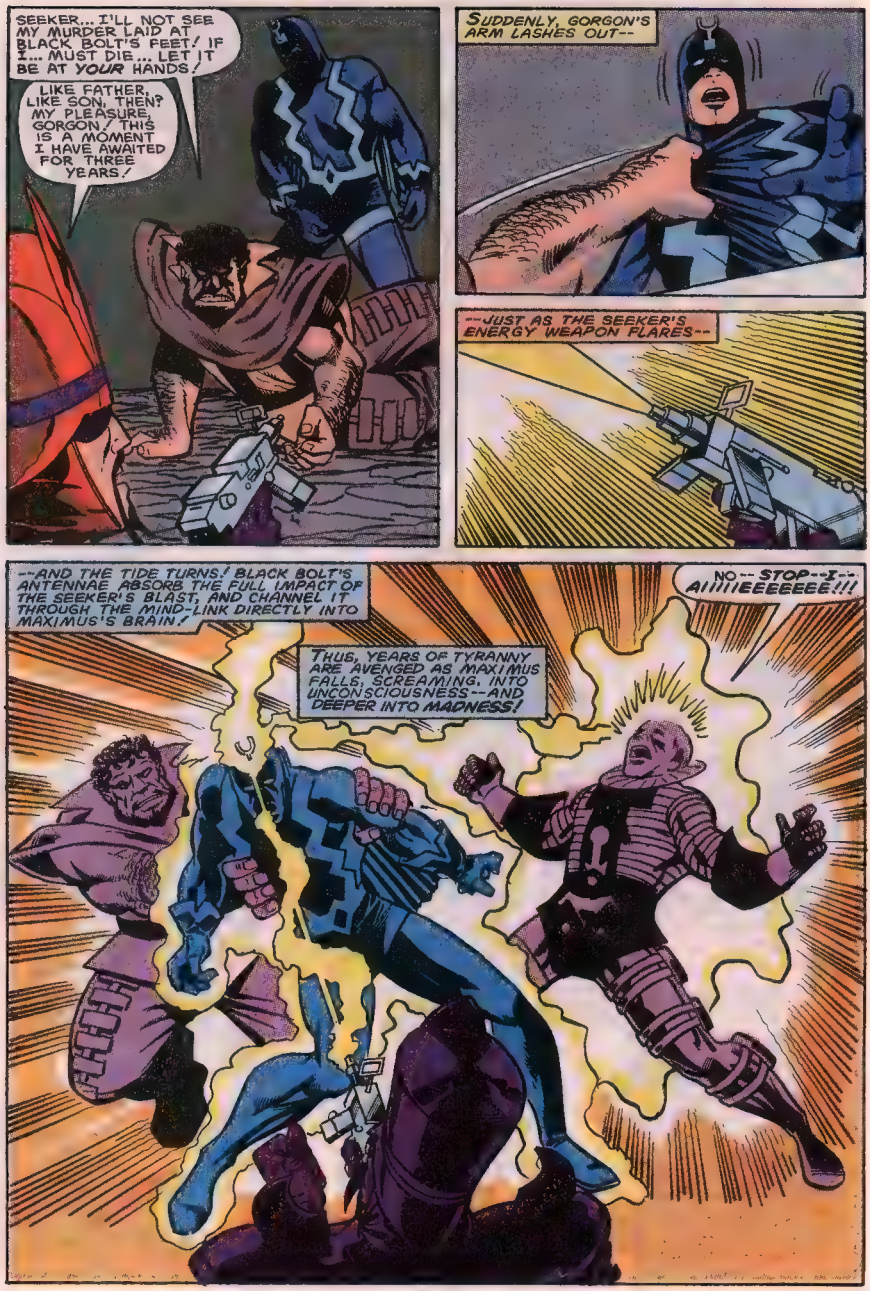
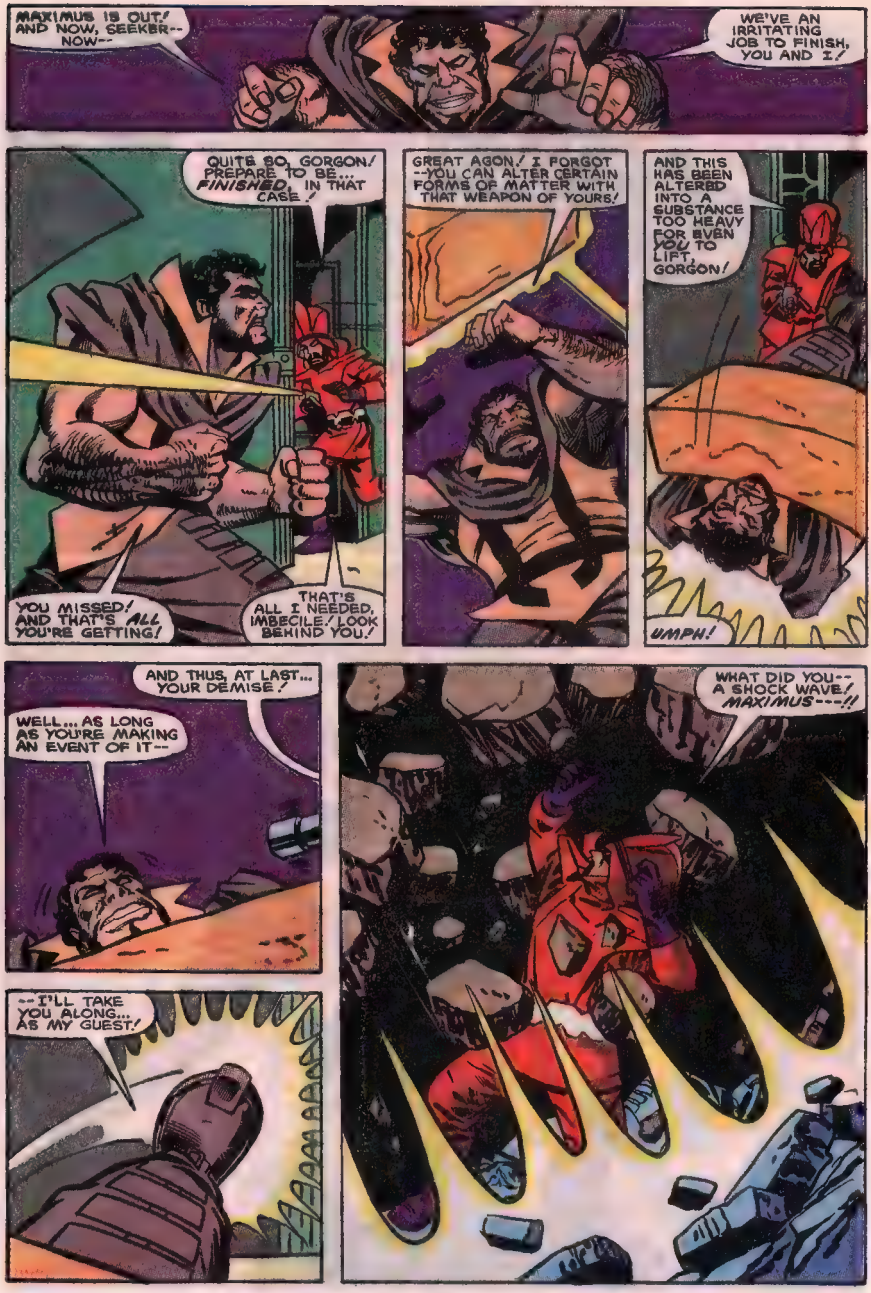
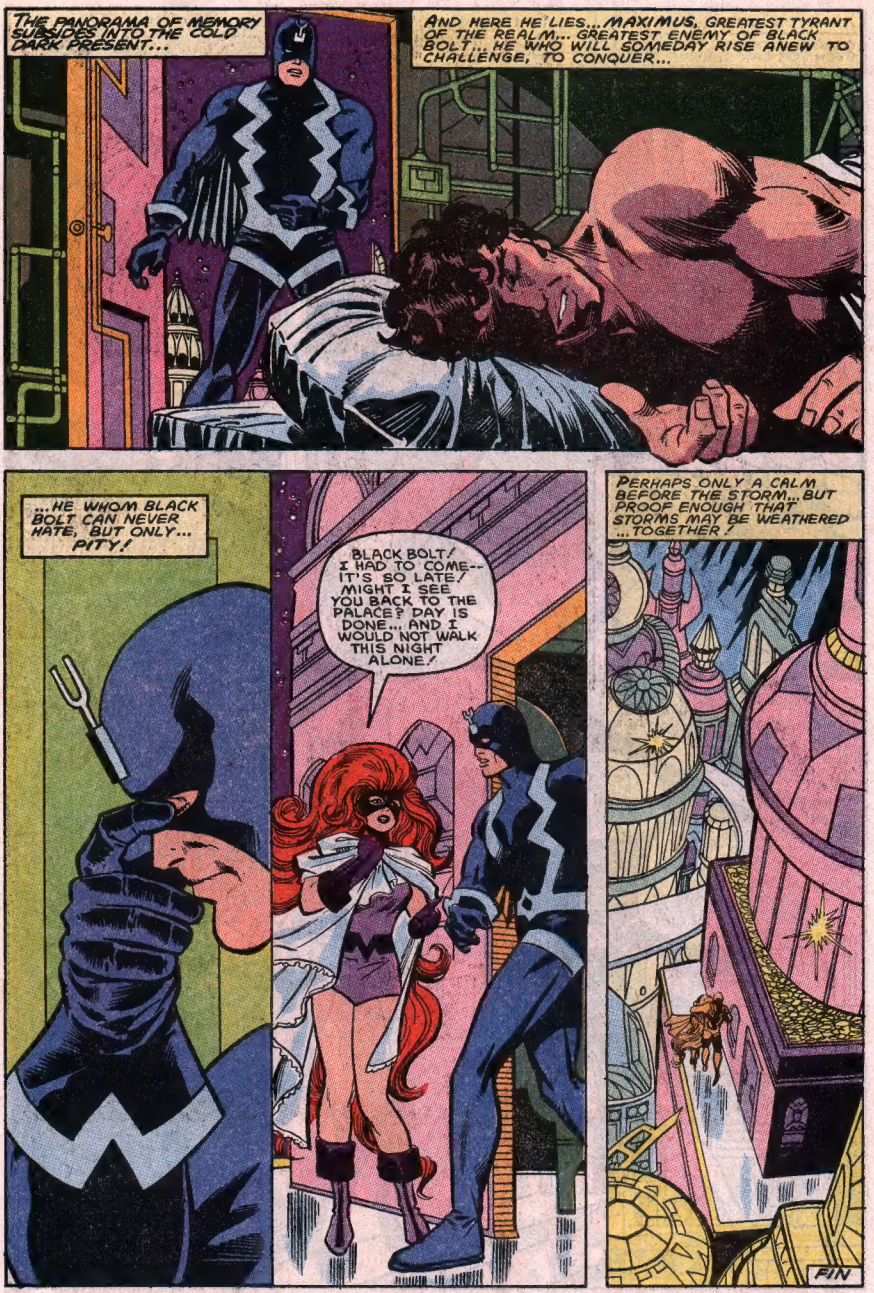

SEEKER... I'LL NOT SEE MY MURDER LAID AT BLACK BOLT'S FEET! IF I... MUST DIE... LET IT BE AT YOUR HANDS!
LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON, THEN? MY PLEASURE, GORGON! THIS IS A MOMENT I HAVE AWAITED FOR THREE YEARS!
SUDDENLY, GORGON'S ARM LASHES OUT--
--JUST AS THE SEEKER'S ENERGY WEAPON FLARES--
--AND THE TIDE TURNS! BLACK BOLT'S ANTENNAE ABSORB THE FULL IMPACT OF THE SEEKER'S BLAST, AND CHANNEL IT THROUGH THE MIND-LINK DIRECTLY INTO MAXIMUS'S BRAIN!
NO-- STOP--I-- AIIIIIEEEEEEE!!!
THUS, YEARS OF TYRANNY ARE AVENGED AS MAXIMUS FALLS, SCREAMING, INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS--AND DEEPER INTO MADNESS!


MAXIMUS IS OUT! AND NOW, SEEKER-- NOW--
WE'VE AN IRRITATING JOB TO FINISH, YOU AND I!
QUITE SO, GORGON! PREPARE TO BE... FINISHED, IN THAT CASE!
YOU MISSED! AND THAT'S ALL YOU'RE GETTING!
THAT'S ALL I NEEDED, IMBECILE! LOOK BEHIND YOU!
GREAT AGON! I FORGOT --YOU CAN ALTER CERTAIN FORMS OF MATTER WITH THAT WEAPON OF YOURS!
AND THIS HAS BEEN ALTERED INTO A SUBSTANCE TOO HEAVY FOR EVEN YOU TO LIFT, GORGON!
UMPH!
AND THUS, AT LAST... YOUR DEMISE!
WELL... AS LONG AS YOU'RE MAKING AN EVENT OF IT--
--I'LL TAKE YOU ALONG... AS MY GUEST!
WHAT DID YOU-- A SHOCK WAVE! MAXIMUS---!!

MINUTES LATER...
GENTLY, GORGON,/ NOT EVEN YOU CAN SURVIVE SUCH A BATTERING WITHOUT SOME INJURY./
INJURY?/ THAT MATTER-BLOCK HE PINNED ME WITH GAVE ME ALL THE PROTECTION I NEEDED./ WITHOUT IT, MY HAND WOULD BE GRASPING AIR NOW--LIKE HIS./
NOW, MY FATHER CAN REST MORE EASILY/ AND I HOPE MY MOTHER IS STILL AROUND TO HEAR IT./
SHE WILL BE, GORGON,/ I FOUND MILENA'S CELL, AND HAD HER RELEASED.
THE SEEKER--DEAD./ GREAT RANDAC, MEDUSA, IS IT OVER AND DONE WITH, NOW?. WILL NOBODY BE LEFT UNHARMED?
ONLY ONE MORE VICTIM, CRYSTAL--MAXIMUS/ HE'S BEEN REDUCED TO A GIBBERING IDIOT/ THERE'S NO POINT IN PUNISHING HIM FURTHER--WE WILL JUST LEAD HIM BACK TO HIS NEW CELL!
EH? BLACK BOLT? HAVE YOU COME TO PLAY WITH MAXIMUS? HEE-HEE./
LET THE HUMANS HAVE THEIR OUTSIDE WORLD./ WE'VE A KINGDOM TO REBUILD... AND I'M GOING TO GET STARTED RIGHT AFTER I SEE MY MOTHER!
WE ARE INHUMANS, CRYSTAL./ LET US AT LEAST BE SATISFIED TO BE AMONG OUR OWN KIND!
YES... FREE TO BE PRISONERS OF THIS NEGATIVE ZONE./
BUT WE HAVE MUCH TO THANK OUR ANCESTORS FOR TODAY./ MEDUSA IS OURS AGAIN--BLACK BOLT HOLDS THE CROWN--THE REFUGE IS OUR HOME AGAIN, AND ITS CITIZENS ARE FREE./


THE PANORAMA OF MEMORY SUBSIDES INTO THE COLD DARK PRESENT...
AND HERE HE LIES... MAXIMUS, GREATEST TYRANT OF THE REALM... GREATEST ENEMY OF BLACK BOLT... HE WHO WILL SOMEDAY RISE ANEW TO CHALLENGE, TO CONQUER...
...HE WHOM BLACK BOLT CAN NEVER HATE, BUT ONLY... PITY!
BLACK BOLT! I HAD TO COME-- IT'S SO LATE! MIGHT I SEE YOU BACK TO THE PALACE? DAY IS DONE... AND I WOULD NOT WALK THIS NIGHT ALONE!
PERHAPS ONLY A CALM BEFORE THE STORM... BUT PROOF ENOUGH THAT STORMS MAY BE WEATHERED ...TOGETHER!
FIN

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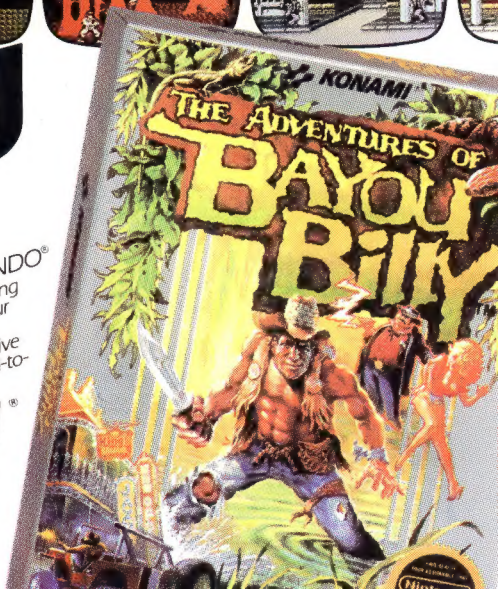

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